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THE FARINGTON DIARY

GEORGE IV. WHO FIGURES IN THE DIARY AS PRINCE OF WALES
From the Painting by Sir Thomas Lawrence in the Vatican, Rome

[*Frontispiece*

THE FARINGTON DIARY

BY

JOSEPH FARINGTON, R.A.

EDITED BY
JAMES GREIG
AUTHOR OF
A "Life of Thomas Gainsborough," and a "Life of Sir Henry Raeburn"

VOL. IV.

(SEPTEMBER 20, 1806, TO JANUARY 7, 1808)

With Frontispiece and twelve other illustrations

LONDON:
HUTCHINSON & CO.
PATERNOSTER ROW
1924

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1922
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VOL. I.

First edition published December, 1922
Second „ „ „ 1922
Third „ „ *February,* 1923

VOL. II.

First edition published August, 1923

VOL. III.

First edition published March, 1924

VOL. IV.

First edition published November, 1924.

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INTRODUCTION

The fourth volume of Farington's Diary opens with the interesting and pleasant gossip of a house party in the Autumn of 1806 at Taplow Court, Lord Thomond's riverside residence. In two entries the Diarist gives significant pen-portraits of himself. The first self-sketch was made on October 5, before a dinner "off plate" at which champagne was carried round, claret, port, madeira and sherry being served afterwards. "I drank Sherry & Port," says Farington, "Lord Thomond chiefly Madeira." Pascoe Grenfell, M.P. for Great Marlow, was one of the guests and the host warned the others to "touch upon the conduct of Administration delicately as Mr. Grenfell is attached to Lord Grenville," who was then Prime Minister. To Lord Thomond, Farington replied, with characteristic caution, "I never express my sentiments on that subject till I hear those of others."

On the following day a large party was to dine with Sir John Turner, and Lord Thomond said that Dr. Lawrence [of "Rolliad" fame], Pascoe Grenfell, and Sir John Turner "wd. have all the talk to themselves so that the others . . . might be silent." Farington modestly answered: "I never liked to Hear the sound of my own voice but in small parties of those with whom I was well acquainted." Dr. Lawrence was a glutton as well as a talker, as we gather from the same entry: "It was sd. that we are to have *a pike* of 13 pounds weight. I [Farington] sd. Dr. Lawrence having the reputation of being a large eater wd. make a figure at it.—They sd. His appetite is prodigious. Sir Wm. Scott's wife says that if the Doctor dines where there are sweet things none wd. be left for the next day."

One more personal reference to Farington, this time in relation with Wordsworth. The incident must be given in the Diarist's own phrasing.

"Constable remarked [on December 12, 1807] upon the high opinion Wordsworth entertains of himself. He told Constable that while He was a Boy going to Hawkshead school, His mind was often so possessed with images, so lost in extraordinary conceptions, that He has held by a wall not knowing but He was part of it. He also desired a Lady, Mrs. Loyd, near Windermere when Constable was present to notice the singular formation of His Skull.—Coleridge remarked that this was the effect of intense thinking. I observed to Constable if so, He must have thought in His Mother's womb."

Returning to the river-party at Taplow, we learn from Lord Thomond that the manners of the Prince of Wales in Society are the most finished that can be imagined. He is captivating in the highest degree, has read much, holds conversations most agreeably, sings and "*observes with nice attention any encroachment upon His importance*, but does not *express it at the time*." The picture of the Prince, however, is not wholly flattering, and "Finally our conversation on this subject ended with saying 'Oh, King live for ever.'"

Public schools are severely condemned by Dr. Gretton, who kept a private one at Taplow. "He said the bane of the public schools is that the parents of many of the Boys fill their pockets with *Bank notes*, and opportunity is allowed for the expenditure of it viciously." He describes the characters of the three great Schools by saying that the "youths at *Eaton are dissipated gentlemen*;—those at *Westminster* dissipated with a little of the Blackguard;—and those at *St. Paul's School* the most depraved of all." Nor is Rugby unscathed. "In it are many of the Sons of Gentlemen but more of those who are the Sons of Manufacturers at Birmingham, Wolverhampton &c., who have little sentiment of the disgrace of any dishonorable act as their inclinations lead them." At Harrow the "Boys are gentlemen, as are those at Dr. Gretton's own school, where they never expend more than *two guineas a year*." At his request the parents supplied their sons with a guinea and if they required more he gave them "*a shilling at a time*."

In Chapter III. Dr. Gretton tells an extraordinary story of a Royal Academician who was a greater rogue than painter, and he also speaks of the good society in the neighbourhood of Taplow. "The Commercial men '*bear the Bill*.' At Craufurd Bruce's you dine of Plate, and Champagne, Tokay—Hermitage, &c., are proposed to you in succession as soon as you have begun to eat.—Pascoe Grenfell still exceeds *Bruce*; His Plate is gilt."

Lord Thomond gives a droll description of the Prince of Orange, who had recently died. "While the Prince was in England He was often treated with most disrespectful levity by the Prince of Wales and His Brothers. They would pluck His Hair, & on His moving His Head round, another would do the same on the other side making Him the sport of the Company. The King, on the contrary, always behaved to Him with kindness & respect."

The sad case of Sir John D'Oyly and the great extravagance of his wife are discussed: "In one year Her Bill to *Mrs. Beavais* the Dressmaker amounted to £700, and Mrs. Beavais to keep well with the waiting maid of so good a Customer, sent Her a present of a laced Cloak, but the maid did not think it of *sufficient value* & returned it.—Another was sent, but that wd. not do, and a third, worth towards 20 guineas, was presented and graciously accepted." Lady D'Oyly's jealousy and its consequences are made the most of by Mrs. Partington, who also tells us that her Ladyship's passion for dress "continued to the last. Three weeks before Her death she ordered Hats to the amount of £30 when Sir John could scarcely raise 30 shillings."

In further gossip at Taplow interesting reference is made to the

Princess of Wales (who figures prominently in the volume), to the love sacrifice of Mr. Penton, of Pentonville fame, and the romantic story of one of Lord Eliot's ancestors. Fear of the Ministry, political intrigue and captured frigates also form subjects for discussion at Lord Thomond's table, as do the Duke of Manchester's industry, and Mr. Grenfell says that if it were not for the Methodist preachers the Cornish people would be "*Savages*."

In Chapter IX. we read that Lady Oxford never allows a book of any kind except such as she may have read and approved, to lay in a room to which the children have access; Dr. Hayes describes the grief of the mourners at Fox's funeral, where he finds Sheridan "greatly altered & Has no doubt from His appearance that His liver is much inflamed,—& thinks it will ere long terminate in Dropsy.

Architects' fees, William Beckford's singularity and persecution, James Barry's character and qualities are talked about, and, throughout the volume, war echoes occupy considerable space. The menace of Bonaparte's victories in Prussia and Poland seriously affected the public and the Press.

On November 23, 1806, it is stated in *Bell's Weekly Messenger* "that Europe is lost. Russia can only be saved by an immediate Peace, and England, as having no farther object in the war, must from every motive of prudence be a party in the same general peace." At dinner tables are heard despondent remarks that the storm gathering around us must break on us, and "that, seeing the fall of other nations, the people of this country may possibly become reconciled to whatever may happen to them." On the other hand, money is abundant in the City, where the only fear is that "Ministers wd. give way & not adhere to their resolutions. . . . The times are critical, but all we require is to maintain our resolution."

Much is heard of eminent men occupied in various spheres of life. Questioned on his death-bed by the Bishop of Lincoln respecting religion and prayer, Pitt in substance said, "From my situation in life & public cares weighing heavily upon me I have not attended so much to those duties as I wished and desired, *but you know my mind*." He afterwards added, "I rely entirely upon the infinite mercy of God, through the merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ."

Fox, on hearing his own "*command of words*" extolled, observed that "certainly He had *a word* but Pitt always had *the Word*." It was also remarked of Pitt that he "never uttered a sentence *ungrammatically*. Porson, the Greek professor, said that every sentence uttered by Pitt was so regular and correct as to appear as if formed in his mind before it was expressed. On the contrary Mr. Fox plunged into the middle and found His way through it as well as he could."

The last illness and death of John Opie, R.A., "the Cornish wonder," are recorded at length, and note is made of Hoppner's jealousy and childishness, of how he offended Farington and snubbed a lady. Turner is characterized as conceited and his pictures are called crude blotches, there are interesting anecdotes about Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Coke of Norfolk is represented as an " incessant talker," politician and clever business man, and Wordsworth, as art critic, " thought Historical subjects shd. never be introduced into Landscape, but where the Landscape was to be subservient to them," and so on. He thought the Royal Academy of 1807 " a poor exhibition," and upset Sir David Wilkie by proposing subjects for him to paint. Wilkie was then famous and when Sir John Leicester asked Turner the price of his picture of a Forge, Turner answered that he understood Wilkie was to have 100 guineas for " His Blind Fiddler, and He should not rate His picture at a less price." Catalani, the celebrated singer, appeared at the Opera for the first time on Saturday, December 13, 1806, in a new serious work called *La Semiramide* by Portogallo, and on the 21st, Farington says, " she has £2000 for the season—and a benefit. She is about 24 years [she was 26],—and is married." Later he informs us that Mrs. Billington had £2,500, but this is concealed from Catalani, who " produces greater profits to the Opera House than were ever before known, the receipts of the House, exclusive of Boxes, is upon an average between 6 & £700 a night. . . . She is very much attached to Her Husband, & cannot be approached by those who would offer temptations to Her."

Ralph Kirtley, Sir Joshua Reynolds' old servant, is responsible for the following pathetic story. " From the time that Sir Joshua found He must die He appeared to wish that no one should visit him, but he could not refuse Mr. Burke. He lay whole nights seemingly witht. sleep, but silent, except that after a long interval in the night He wd. hastily call out *Ralph* as if to assure himself that He was not alone."

The kindness of Princess Sophia of Gloucester is recorded, and we learn that Dr. Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury, got into trouble with the Prince of Wales because he complained of the " great negligence shewn in educating and attending the Princess " Charlotte of Wales, whose preceptor he was. As an instance of this neglect " the Bishop noticed that Her nose requiring to be *wiped*, she did not apply Her Handkerchief, but wiped Her nose with *Her sleeve*, as vulgar people do."

Many more entertaining entries could be summarized, but readers must go to the text itself and find by means of the full index subjects such as " The Prince and Metcalfe," " Coalition against Bonaparte," " Lord Thomond as Waiter," " Soane cleaned the Shoes," " Artists and Critics," " Holt, a Political Writer," " Women and Art," " Boxer and Duellist," " Indiscretion of the Marchioness," " Greeks Ignorant of Anatomy," " Constable declines," " Freedom of the Seas," " Newspapers and the Public," " Coleridge and Kindness," and " The Lovers of Angelica Kauffman."

Editorial interpolations in the text are placed, as in previous volumes, within brackets, and Farington's spelling and punctuation are preserved throughout.

To Mr. T. P. Greig belongs the credit of compiling the Index, and Mr. Robert Harris again helped in the proof reading.

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THE FARINGTON DIARY

CHAPTER I

1806

Bubb's Statue of Pitt

September 20.—Rossi I met. He informed me that on Thursday last, the Court of Common Council decided in favour of a model by *Bubb* of a monument to Mr. Pitt.—Bubbs *estimate* of expense was some hundred pounds less than that of any other candidate, which influenced many of the Citizens to vote for it.—It was decided by a *show* of *Hands* & He had a great majority.—Rossi had the next greater number.—Rossi said that witht. able assistance Bubb is not qualified to execute it.*

Lawrence I called on at His desire to see His progress in the picture of Lady Fludyers Children.†—I told him his *plan* was very good, but that there was too much *middle tint* in it, & that it wanted splendour, but I expressed an apprehension of giving Him trouble & taking up His time in making alterations.—He said "that *completion* was very desireable, but He had not yet ceased to aim at perfection. . . ."

[Morning Post stated that the expences of Lord Nelson's funeral amounted to £14,000.11.6—Those of Mr. Pitt to £6015.2.6.—From small note-book.]

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* J. G. Bubb contributed irregularly to the Royal Academy from 1805 to 1831. The Pitt monument referred to is in the Guildhall, where also is a statue of Mercury by the same sculptor. See entry under December 4th: "Cheapness before Art."

† Maria Weston was married on October 5, 1786, to her cousin, Sir Samuel Brudenell Fludyer, second baronet, and by her left one son, Samuel, third baronet, and two daughters, Maria and Caroline Louisa. Sir Walter Armstrong does not refer to this picture in his "Life" of Lawrence, nor has it, apparently, ever been exhibited.

Sir Samuel, the first baronet, when Lord Mayor of London, entertained George III. and several members of the Royal Family in 1761. He was ground landlord of Fludyer Street, Westminster, which was cleared away to make room for the new Foreign Office. See Vol. III., page 303*n*.

Taplow Court

September 23.—I left London a little after one in the Marlow Coach & got to Taplow Court [Lord Thomond's residence] 25 miles at 10 minutes past 5 in time for dinner.—

We had a fine Haunch of Venison at dinner.—I observed that Lord Thomond no longer drinks *Port Wine*.—He drinks Madeira, & that very moderately. Mr. Hayes said that in the year 1786 He was in Paris & to improve Himself in the French language attended a French Abbé.—There was at that time a disposition to undervalue Louis 16th. their King.—Mr. Hayes observing 5 busts placed in a row in the Abbé's room asked Him who one of them represented. The Abbé replied it was a Bust of Louis 16th & He had placed Him between two Busts, one of Henry 4th.—the other of the Duke of Sully, Henry's minister ; He had done it that being so placed a *little sense* might be put into Him.—

Mr. Hayes is Son to Judge Hayes, one of the Welsh Judges. He travelled abroad with Lord Brome.*

Lord Thomond expressed a full belief that the story of the *Warming Pan* related of James 2nd's Queen was true & that the child, afterwards called the *Pretender* was *not born of Her Body*.—

Oh, King, Live for Ever

September 24.—After the ladies retired Lord Thomond spoke of the Prince [of Wales] and said *His Manner* in Society is the most finished that can be imagined. His look, His address, the tone of His voice, are captivating in the highest degree. He has read a good deal, & is ready at quotation ; Has a respectable share of classical learning, and holds conversations most agreeably.—He is very high, has much pride, and *observes with nice attention any encroachment upon His importance*, but does not *express it at the time*. He has a disposition to make people laughable to others, and does it skilfully, by encouraging an exposure of a weakness and leading the person on "*to ridicule Himself*." He sings ; & from his extensive intercourse with a variety of characters has abundance of anecdote.—I asked what *His temper* appeared to be ?—At the bottom peevish, & not the most pleasant; and *no reliance can be had upon Him.*—I observed that it seemed to be a proof of a *bad taste* to associate, as He does, with ordinary, & even despicable men, giving them a preference in making up His habitual Society.—His Lordship sd. it was His misfortune to have been vitiated while He was young.—Finally our conversation on this subject ended with saying "Oh King live for ever".—

---

* Viscount Brome, only son and heir of the first Marquess Cornwallis, was Tory M.P. for Eye, 1795-96 ; for Suffolk, 1796-1805 ; and Master of the Buckhounds, 1807, until his death. In 1797 he married Louisa, fourth daughter of the fourth Duke of Gordon. She was born in 1776 and died in 1850 ; he died on August 9, 1823, aged 49, when the Marquessate of Cornwallis became extinct.

On February 13, 1792, Mrs. C. Cornwallis wrote : "Lord Brome is, I assure you, everything you can wish. He has left Eton, and is just now in town to prepare for his journey to Yverdun, [accompanied by young Mr. Hayes], where, by all accounts, he is likely to pass some time to great advantage, in learning French. He grows both stout and tall."

The Hon. Vicary Gibbs states that Lord Brome, having expressed to the Duchess of Gordon some hesitation about marrying her daughter on account of supposed insanity in the Gordon family, he received from the Duchess the gratifying assurance that there was not a drop of Gordon blood in Louisa !

His Lordship desired me to inform Him what He stood indebted to me for the picture I have painted of "Taplow Woods".—Upon my hesitating a little, He urged to express it in *two words* & to speak as if It was to *Mr. Angerstein.*—I mentioned 40 guineas; He sd. it was less than He expected. He spoke in the same liberal manner abt. the *Frame*, & on my telling Him the price was £5.18.0. sd. it was very moderate.—

September 25.—We dined at the *Spring* most agreeably a little after 4 oClock.—I walked to it from the House in 25 minutes. They call it near two miles.—Our dinner consisted of Cold meats, excellent, and fruit afterwards. We returned home in the Barouche abt. ¾ past 6. but the latter part of the way, Lord Thomond got out & I walked with Him to the root House & to some other points by moonlight.—He told me He had known the place 70 years, it being so long since He first came from Ireland. It was at that time in the possession of His Uncle whose eldest daughter He married. Taplow was purchased in 1706 by the Earl of Orkney & Cliefdon in 1712. His Uncle married the Heiress of that family.

Great Riders

Lord Thomond said that all the walks in Taplow woods had been made by himself, & every time He came into them He felt new pleasure. He told me He was now 82 years old, & on my remarking upon His fine Constitution, He said that *peace of mind*, contributed greatly to it. He lived well with others & *without pride*. He expressed much pleasure of a speech of the *King* to *Him*. His Majesty with whom He was much accustomed to Hunt said to Him one say, "You and I ride more than any other *two gentlemen* in England." He said He had always felt sensibly the honor of having been so addressed by His Majesty, it conveying a sentiment of His Majesty's opinion of Him.—

The Prince Sang

After dinner the Prince of Wales was spoken of & Lady Thomond was warm in Her admiration of His grace and manner.—Once when the Prince & a Party dined with them after the Ladies retired much conviviality prevailing, the Prince sung a Song with which the Company were much delighted. Lord Thomond in His rapture expressed a fervent wish that Lady Thomond had heard it, on which the Prince being willing to gratify His Lordship Lady Thomond was brought in & the Prince again sung the Song, after which, feeling the awkwardness of Her situation, He gallantly took Her Hand and walked with her to the door.

The conduct of the D . . . . s of Y . . . .* was mentioned by Mrs. Dee [from Lisbon] as giving much more occasion for remark.—She has walked to Kensington Gardens witht. a Servant, arm in arm with Culling Smith,† whose wife, Lady Anne Smith has a situation in Her establishment. She has also walked with 20 others. The D. spoke to K. 12 months ago abt. Her manner of going on and of a Divorce.—K. reminded Him of His own infidelity in that respect & sd. He wd. only bring trouble upon Himself.—

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* In "The Greville Memoirs" "the Duchess is clever and well-informed; she likes society and dislikes all form and ceremony, but in the midst of the most familiar intercourse always preserves a certain dignity of manner." At her death on August 6, 1820, Greville says, "She is deeply regretted by her husband and her friends and her servants. Probably no person in such a situation was ever more really liked."

† Charles Culling Smith was Parliamentary Under Secretary in the Grenville Government, and died in 1853.

Lady Anne Culling Smith, daughter of Gurrell Wellesley, first Earl of Mornington, was born in 1768, and married in 1790 the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, after whose death in 1799 she married Culling Smith, and died in 1844. Hoppner painted a beautiful portrait of her and her children by her first husband, Georgiana Frederica Fitzroy, who became Marchioness of Worcester, and Anne Caroline Fitzroy, who died unmarried in 1835.

CHAPTER II

1806

The Prince and Metcalfe

September 25.—Lord & Lady Thomond now concurred in saying that the Prince never oppresses His company by assuming importance but gives His countenance to those who stand most in need of it. It is only when He sees a disposition to intrusion, or improper familiarity that He shews anything repulsive.—Mr. Philip Metcalfe, member for Horsham,* felt the ill consequence of having made an inconsiderate remark. He was during His annual residence at Brighton for the Season, well recd. by the Prince, & was very often of the dinner parties; and also of Mrs. Fitzherbert's parties.

One day when at dinner with the Prince, He happened to sit next to Lord Petersham, who remarking to Him the magnificence of the entertainment, Metcalfe replied by quoting a Spanish proverb, signifying, "Luxury abounds, but who pays for it?"—The next day Metcalfe met the Prince accompanied by Lord Petersham. The Prince, as usual, spoke cheerfully to Metcalfe, but Lord Petersham did not notice Him, which the Prince observed, & after parting from Metcalfe asked Him why He did not speak to Metcalfe? Because, replied His Lordship, I will not speak to any one who shows disrespect to your Royal Highness, & then told Him what passed the day before.—The Prince from that time *has never noticed Metcalfe*, & to mark His disapprobation, on the following day invited to dinner a person who was on a visit to Metcalfe, without including Him.

It was agreed that Metcalfe acted imprudently,—Lord Petersham ungenerously or rather mischievously,—and the Prince not with much dignity in regarding it.—

September 26.—Mrs. Partington† sd. she has been told that Dr. Baillie, the Physician gets £9000 a year.—She said His manner is coarse, & He has a Scottish Brogue,—but has an honest mind.—

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Probably the wife of Partington, the fashionable dentist, referred to by J. T. Smith in "Nollekens and His Times," and the Mr. Partington who, according to Lysons, owned the house at Barnes (? Twickenham) in which Henry Fielding resided. In 1811 Partington's niece, widow of Admiral Stanton, was the proprietor of this house.

Sir John Turner's we dined at. I had not seen Dr. Gretton since the year 1792.* We were in the Autumn of that year at the Duke of Montrose's in Scotland together.—He proposed to me to ride with Him to-morrow.

Public Schools

Publick Schools were spoken of. Dr. Gretton keeps a *private one* at Taplow. He said the bane of the public schools is that the parents of many of the Boys fill their pockets with *Bank notes*, & opportunity is allowed for the expenditure of it viciously. He described the Characters of three great Schools by saying that the youth at *Eaton are dissipated gentlemen* ;—those at *Westminster* dissipated with a little of the Black guard ;—and those at St. *Pauls School* the most depraved of all.—He said *Eaton* at present is upon a sad footing ; the Master, Dr. Goodall, having lost much of His Authority from want of resolution. He expelled a Boy some time since, which being opposed by the youth of the *6th* (the highest) *form*, He gave way & recalled the Boy & of course in so yielding is subject to objections of that form.—He said *Rugby School* is also upon a bad footing. In it are many of the Sons of Gentlemen, but more of those who are the Sons of Manufacturers at Birmingham, Wolverhampton &c. who having little sentiment of the disgrace of anything dishonorable act as their inclinations lead them.—He said, in His school, no Boy, though some are 18 years of age, expends more while at School, than *two guineas a year*. He desires the parents not to give them more than *one guinea* & if they require more, He gives them *a Shilling at a time*.—At Harrow also, He said, the Boys are gentlemen.—

The Chaplain's Table

He spoke of the abolition of the Chaplains table at St. James's,—& sd. the allowance to each Chaplain, instead of the table, is £30 a year : but though a gainer by it, as instead of being required to reside in London a fortnight in each year, He only goes to town *one day* in the year, and preaches, which is all the duty required from a Chaplain.—A very large quantity of Plate has been accumulated it being the Custom for each Chaplain on being advanced in the Church so as to give up His Chapelancy to give a piece of Plate,—with His name upon it.—

September 27.—At Eleven oClock Lord & Lady Thomond & Mrs. Partington went upon the water on a fishing party having appointed to dine at the Spring. His Lordship lent me a Horse & Servant & I rode to Dr. Gretton's at Hitcham House, one mile from Taplow. There I walked abt. the grounds with Mrs. Gretton who shewed me several of Her Children, Her eldest Son, a clergyman, aged 25, & Her youngest Child, a Boy, 3 years old. She said she had had 15 children.—I then rode with Dr. Gretton through Burnham Wood, & by Dropmore till 2 oClock.—He spoke of His general good fortune in life, & told me that He was very happily circumstanced in respect of property. He set out in life without having anything & now could retire to a House in Nottinghamshire, near which He has a small estate, & could sit down possessed of £700 a year.

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* The Rev. George Gretton, D.D., 11th Wrangler, and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, was inducted rector of Hedsor Parish Church on October 29, 1803, on the presentation of Frederick, Lord Boston. He resigned and afterwards became chaplain to the King, and Dean of Hereford from 1809 to 1820. Dr. Gretton had a large family, and he and his wife Mary were buried at Hitcham, Bucks.

He said He has now 26 Boys under His Tuition. The vacations are 6 weeks dated from the 20th. of July, and a month from the 20th. of December.—He spoke of Lord St. A[saph], and said the world take Him to be *proud* but He does not think Him so. He sd. His Lordships understanding is *sound*, & He knows no person to whose judgment He wd. sooner refer in a difficult case: But His Constitution is bilious & irritable, which makes Him very uncertain as to chearfulness or being reserved.—He sd. Lady St. A[saph] is ill suited to Him; she is rapid, intelligent; but has little judgment; She is *quick*, while He is *ice*.—He has 5 Children by this marriage. His eldest Son by a former marriage is almost 21, & posesses a constitution like that of his father, but has not His mental ability.

CHAPTER III

1806

Greater Rogue than Painter

September 27.—[Dr. Gretton] complained much of the great loss He had sustained by His Brother who was connected with Hodges [R.A.] in a Bank which they set up at Dartmouth.* He said His Brother had great abilities for His profession but had become drunken & depraved. After the death of Hodges He allowed His Brother £200 a year to maintain Him so as to enable Him to proceed in His profession as an Attorney after the Bank had stopped; but all His wishes were frustrated by the habits He had adopted,—& He now allowed Him a pittance regardless of what may become of Him.—He spoke of Hodges with great bitterness, saying that He had neither *religion* or *principles :* that he was a swindler & a cheat.—He sd. His Brother unfortunately became acquainted with Hodges in the following manner.—John Carr, brother [in law] to Mr. Hodges, had been placed with an Attorney in London of the name of *Pugh*, who proved to be a flimsy man, & in other respects such, as to cause Hodges to be disatisfied with Him. At that time Dr. Gretton had a living at Dartmouth, & His Brother was established there as an Attorney.

Deeds Not Worth Sixpence

Hodges prevailed upon the Doctor to induce His Brother to take John Carr to be His clerk, which caused an intercourse between Hodges & Him, and the former made a proposal to the latter to set up a Bank at Dartmouth & shewed to the latter Deeds not worth sixpence to prove that He was worth £12,000, all of which He offered to lodge as a foundation to begin their Banking business upon.—The matter was communicated to Dr. Gretton who objected to it, but without the Doctor's knowledge an agreement was made & the Bank was established. At that time a Mr. Seal, a gentleman of good property, engaged with them, His name was 12 months in the firm, but He seeing something which He did not like, withdrew from it, and left Hodges, &—Gretton the only partners. Gretton attending to his business as an Attorney left the Management of the Banking business to Hodges & a Clerk & looked at the books only occasionally.—Thus matters wore on. Hodges went to London & called on Dr. Gretton and told Him that they had discounted some *Newfoundland Bills* to a considerable amount which had reduced their Cash, and desired the Doctor to accept two bills of £500 each payable in a few months, upon which Hodges could procure money, to suit their convenience till the Bills shd. become due. After some hesitation the Doctor consented but required to have the Bills as a security. Hodges sd. they were in the Country, but He wd. send them.—Soon after Hodges informed Him that He shd. not require *His acceptance* of the Bills He had proposed to draw.

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* William Hodges, son of a blacksmith in Clare Market, Drury Lane, was born in 1744, and studied first at Shipley's Drawing School in the Strand, and afterwards under Richard Wilson, the landscape painter. In 1772 he accompanied, as draughtsman, Captain Cook in his second voyage round the world, and his sketches were published in the narrative of the expedition. He was elected an Associate of the Academy in 1786, and a member in the following year. Hodges published in 1793 an account of his "Travels in India," during 1780-3, and, settling at Dartmouth, in 1793, he opened the bank referred to in Dr. Gretton's story of Hodges's depredations, which is wholly new.

Hodges was married first, on May 11, 1776, to Miss Martha Nesbit, who died in childbed within a year; second, on October 16, 1784, to Miss Lydia Wright; and third to Miss Carr, who was "much beloved and praised by Romney." By his third wife, who died shortly after her husband, he had five children.

Found Out

The Doctor afterwards discovered that it was owing to Hodges's Banker refusing to give Cash for the Bills if drawn which they did because *they suspected that ultimately the Doctor would be obliged to pay* them & they wished to prevent His sustaining such a loss. He also discovered that no Newfoundland Bills had been discounted & it was all a fiction contrived for His private accomodation.—The final blow up was occasioned as follows.—Gretton looking into the Books one day discovered that Hodges had drawn bills in the space of one fortnight, to the amount of near £2000 for the purpose of paying His own debts incurred in London before He left that place. Among the rest was one to a *Taylor* for upwards of £300, the Taylors name something like *Marcellus*.—Gretton immediately expressed His astonishment at the transaction, & instantly, Hodges present, gave a charge to the Clerk, never again to draw a Bill at the request of Hodges without his knowledge & consent, and otherways expressed Himself strongly. Before they parted Hodges told Gretton privately, " That He might as well have put Him *in His Coffin* as said what He had done to & before the Clerk."—The next day Gretton went to London & in a few days information was sent Him that Hodges was dead.—

And Poisons Himself

Dr. Gretton then said, Hodges poisoned Himself. In the night before His death Mrs. Hodges noticed to Him that she perceived by His breath that He had been taking Laudanum.—He was then a good deal convulsed, but said He had taken a little to relieve His stomach. He gradually became worse & died the next morning. It appeared that He had drank all the Laudanum that was in a bottle & *that it was an Ounce.*—

Dr. Gretton then spoke of His [Hodges] marriage with the niece of Mr. Whitehurst of Bolt Court. It seems she had been disappointed in love by a person of the name of *Griesley*, & it operated so upon Her spirits as to cause Her to have recourse to *intoxication.*—She did not always drink brandy or other such spirits, but had recourse to drugs & spirits which produced that effect & lay in a small compass.—Before Hodges went to India she refused to marry Him ; but when He was on the point of going He applied to Dr. Gretton to try whether He could not induce Her to give Him hopes on His return from India where He expected to make a fortune. A little time before Hodges sett off, Gretton conversed with Her and she at last permitted Him to give Hodges encouragement, and Gretton proposed to go to Him early the next morning to inform Him of it, but at 5 oClock that morning the Doctor having slept at Her Uncles House, shé knocked at His room door & dropping a note into His room, desired Him to read it before He went to Mr. Hodges.—

Induced to Marry Him

In it she *withdrew Her permission* & further expressed that it wd. make Her miserable were she to marry Him.—All these particulars the Doctor regrets that He did not mention them to Hodges, but merely stated that He had not been able to make the hoped for permission. From India Hodges frequently wrote to Her & after His return she was induced to marry Him. The Doctor performed the ceremony. It was settled that they shd. dine with Mr. Whitehurst, Her Uncle, in Bolt Court & that in the even'g she & Hodges shd. go to His House in Queen St. Mayfair.—She was very low in spirits ; they dined at an early Hour, & the afternoon appearing long Hodges proposed to Gretton to go out upon some occasion.—They returned to tea & the Doctor then perceived a great alteration in Her appearance & manner. Her Head seemed to be in a light, incoherent state & Her mind wandered strangely. The Hour of separation having arrived the Doctor led Her to a Hackney Coach, & on their way she said to Him " I have seen *Griesley* today."—He replied He was sorry for it. He [Griesley] being a married man & she now [married] she ought not to have seen Him. She replied " I only saw Him as He passed, there " added she, " I see Him again ". I then, said the Doctor to me, saw that Her Head was affected, & immediately suspected for the first time, that she drank.

She Died Next Morning

This was in the month of October, & in the January following I happened to be again in London and met Hodges at Mr. Whitehursts. He then told me His wife was in a very bad way ; that she drank, & finding that the habit *was inveterate in Her, He had given orders to supply Her with as much liquor as she requested.*—This the Doctor disapproved,

& calling upon Hodges the next day had farther conversation with Him respecting it. On His conduct being condemned Hodges became warm & insisted that Gretton should see Her & He took Him to Her Bedside & addressing Her said "Lydia, do you know who this is?"—She took little notice, and only said "Umpgh" and then put Her hand to a pot & drank.—This the Doctor said was *Brandy* which was supplied as often as wanted. The next morning she died.—

Of the last Mrs. Hodges, the 3rd. wife, the Doctor spoke in warm terms of regard, saying she was a pure and excellent woman.—

I asked the Doctor what He thought of the *Understanding* of Hodges. He said, He never could Understand Him so as to judge; His far fetched, hard words, and His similitudes, had such an effect that He could form no conclusion as to His understanding.

An Affected Coxcomb

He said that after He fully discovered His Character, He talked of Him to Lord St. Asaph, who expressed much surprise that the Doctor should not sooner have seen through Him. His Lordship thought any one might have done it in half an Hour. For my part sd. His Lordship, I thought Him an affected Coxcomb in manner, and I found that in his dealing with respect to His prints of views in India, that He had no principle,—and I soon discontinued the work.—

Such was the Doctors statement respecting Hodges, who in many respects acted wrong, & very improvidently, which reduced Him to a situation in which He certainly had neither wisdom, integrity or firmness enough to cause Him to do that which He ought to have done: but the knowledge I had of Him enables me to say that He had many good qualities & fell a sacrifice to a want of a better Head and to extravagant notions caused by pride & ostentatious liberality.

Dr. Gretton gave me a sad acct. of Dr. Langford,* late one of the masters of Eaton, who absconded on acct. of Debts amounting, it is said, to £26,000.—His income from Boarders & from Preferment was so large the Doctor said He ought to have been worth £100,000.—It is now reported that He is in Nottinghamshire & passes under the assumed name of Doctor Loyd.—

Good Society

Dr. Gretton spoke of the good Society they have in this neighboroud: but in respect of sumptuous living, He said the Commercial men "*bear the Bill*."—At Craufurd Bruce's† you dine of Plate, and Champagne,—

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* William Langford, younger son of Edward Langford, of St. Albans, and Mary, his wife, landlady of the "White Hart" of that city, was a scholar of King's College, Cambridge, of which he was a fellow, D.D. (Lambeth), 1778, lower master at Eton, 1775-1803, and Canon of Windsor, 1787-1814. He died in 1814 at Sydenham. See Eton College Register and Vols. I. and III. of the Diary.

† See Vol. III., pages 6-7*n*.

Tokay,—Hermitage, &c. are proposed to you in succession as soon as you have begun to eat.—Pascoe Grenfell* still exceeds *Bruce ;* His Plate is gilt. He began the world without any fortune & is now supposed to be in the rect. of £20,000 a year, from His share & Concern in Copper works, being a partner with the Williams's.—

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* See Vol. III., page 102 and *note.*

CHAPTER IV

1806

Sir John D'Oyly

September 27.—The Spring [on the Thames] we dined at.—At Dusk we returned home, Lord Thomond & myself by water. At tea time we had conversation respecting Sir John D'oyley.*—Mr. Partington was at school with [him] & their intimacy has continued.—Sir John remitted from India through the hands of Child & Co. £80,000, and afterwards recd. £25,000 more: but all was wasted by a most expensive wife and hangers on of Her family.—When Sir John first came to England He told Mr. Partington He wd. not expend more than £2000 a year, and indeed had Himself no inclination to expense.—Mrs. P, said He is but a weak man, but has good intentions, Lord Wellesley just before His Lordship left Calcutta, appointed Him a Receiver in one of the Districts which brings Him in £4000 a year, & He will probably remain in India during the rest of His life.—

September 29.—Being Michaelmas day we had Giblet Soup, & a Goose, with other things for dinner.—The comfort of a small social party was acknowledged & Lord Thomond bid me remember that He engaged me for the *next Michaelmas day.*

Maid to his Wife

We had a bad account of the state of Mr. Penton who lives near.† He had three Physicians with Him & it was proposed to cut off His Hair & apply a Blister to His Head.—He is 70 years of age; has been a handsome man, with a fine head & Hair, of which He has always been careful; so that Lord Thomond said in whatever state of health He might be He never appeared but with His Hair in nice order.—His manners are very courteous & gentle. Lord Thomond spoke of the great sacrifice He had made by forming His present connexion with a Woman who was maid to His Wife which caused a separation. By this woman He has two daughters now grown up, who are in some degree noticed, but their mother is not seen by Ladies.—Lord Thomond said, She is a fine woman, & that Mr. Penton has spoken warmly in Her praise for Her attention to Him. But it has caused Him, who was formerly much in the world, Member for Winchester, & a Lord of the Admiralty, to live many years in, comparatively, a secluded state, in which He has appeared to be obliged to those who called upon Him.—

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* Sir John Hadley D'Oyly, sixth Baronet, of Calcutta and D'Oyly Park, Hampshire born in 1754, was a Bengal merchant, Collector of Calcutta, M.P. for Ipswich, 1790-96, and intimate friend of Warren Hastings. In 1780 he married Diana, widow of William Cotes, of Calcutta, daughter of William Rochfort, niece of Robert Rochfort, first Earl of Belvidere, and granddaughter of George and Lady Elizabeth Rochfort, who was daughter of Henry Moore, third Earl of Drogheda. Sir John died at Calcutta in 1818, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Charles D'Oyly, who was a distinguished amateur artist.

† Henry Penton (who gave his name to Pentonville) was M.P. for Winchester and a Lord of the Admiralty. He died in 1812. On his estate the first buildings of Penton Street were erected about 1773.

The Prince of Orange

After the Ladies retired, Lord Thomond talked of the late Prince of Orange, who, while He was in England, His Lordship was much acquainted with.—He said the Prince was very plain in His person, (*I have often seen Him*) and had a thickness in His pronunciation, but He had a very good understanding, and most extensive Historical information having read much.—His Lordship said that while the preparations were making for the *Duke of York's expedition to Holland*, He called upon the Prince at small lodgings which He had near the Chapel in Conduit St. The Prince expressed Himself very strongly against the Plan of the Expedition, saying, That the Duke was going to land in that part of Holland which was filled with His (the Princes) enemies: That He had no friends at *Amsterdam*, or *Rotterdam*, *&c.* and that it was in *North Holland* only where any success could be expected.—The expedition notwithstanding made an attempt and as the Prince predicted wholly failed.—

They Plucked his Hair

While the Prince was in England He was often treated with most disrespectful levity by the Prince of Wales and His Brothers. They wd. while He was sitting at table, when His Head was turned from them pluck His Hair, and on His moving His Head round, another would do the same on the other side making Him the sport of the Company.—The King, on the contrary, always behaved to Him with kindness & respect.—The Princess of Orange, Aunt to the King of Prussia, had great dignity. When after the Peace of Amiens, it was necessary for the Prince & Princess to go to Germany to take posession of their newly alloted Teritory, they set off with much heaviness of Heart. The Princess, on leaving Hampton-Court, where they had resided, was so much distressed that the blinds of the Carriage were drawn up to prevent Her from being seen.—Their eldest Son was a fine, and accomplished young man. While He was in England He became desperately in love with the *Princess Mary*, but the King, under the circumstances in which the Orange family were, would not consent to their Union, & married a

German Lady, but did not live long.—The family, in the person of the Second Son, is now established in the posessions alotted to them at the peace of Amiens, & in the new *Confederation of the Rhine*, He is made the *Head of the College of Princes*.—

William III

Lord Thomond spoke most warmly of the Character & great abilities of *William the Third*, who saved Holland & preserved the liberties of England.—He said that however much William was attached to Holland, He never after He became King of England allowed those feelings to operate against the interests of this country. William suffered much mortification here. Those men who had been the cause of His coming over, afterwards turned against Him in opposing His measures.—Lord Thomond sd. History does not produce another instance of three men of one family following each other *in Succession*, who posessed such great talents & other high qualities as William the third,—His Father,—& Grandfather.—

Lady D'Oyly's Bill

At tea Mrs. Partington spoke of the great extravagance of Lady D'oyley.—In one year Her Bill to *Mrs. Beauvais* the Dress-maker, amounted to £700.—Mrs. Beauvais, to keep well with the waiting maid of so good a Customer, sent Her a present of a laced Cloak, but the maid did not think it of *sufficient value* & returned it.—Another, was sent, but that wd. not do, and a third worth towards 20 guineas was presented and graciously accepted.—Such is the way in which a good understanding is kept up between a dressmaker and the maid of an expensive Lady to induce Her to encourage that disposition.—Sir John D'oyley, she sd. expended £20,000 to be returned Member for *Ipswich*, & only by that obtained a Seat for one parliament.—With all their profusion of expence everything was so ill ordered that they never kept a *good table*. Mrs. Partington reminded Lady Thomond that at an entertainment *Hashed Wood*-cocks were sent up.—For one entertainment, a Supper & Ball, given by Sir John at His House in Portland Place, He contracted with a person for the whole expence & paid £500.—Rochford, Brother to Lady D'oyley, used Sir John's House as He wd. have done a Tavern, & when Sir John & Lady D'oyley were out of town, would invite His acquaintance & call for *Champagne* &c. witht. the least consideration.—

Sir John Neglected

When Sir John had but little left of all that He brought from India, He was induced to enter into partnership in Dublin with a Mr. Spurling who married a Sister of Lady D'oyley, Gustavus Rochford, Her Cousin,—and —— Granger, Her nephew. Their object first was to establish a great Distillery, but they overbuilt themselves at a vast expense, & the Union taking place and the advantages of Distilleries in Ireland having become thereby comparatively less, they found it necessary to convert their establishment into a Brewery.—Sir John advanced £12,000, and on his leaving England to go to India settled with His Partners, That they shd. retain His £12,000 and pay Him no interest for Six years, but, if at that period the Concern shd. be prosperous He was to be paid interest and to have a share of the profits. He was not, however, to be bound *beyond His* £12,000 for any disappointments which might happen. —Since the concern has failed; Sir John has lost His £12,000 & Mr. Spurling £70,000.—

Mrs. Partington said that it was painful to see how much Sir John was neglected, after His circumstances declined, by most of those who had courted Him while He was in affluence.—Very few indeed appeared to notice Him.—

CHAPTER V

1806

Coalition Against Bonaparte

September 30.—Breakfasted ¼ past 10.—We were much gratified to find in the newspapers that *the Blockade has been taken off the Ports of Prussia*, which gives hope that a strong Coalition may again be formed against Buonaparte's aim at Universal Controul.—

Sir John & Lady Turner I called upon. He had gone out in the Carriage. Yesterday He had the Gout in His Head & Stomach, but relieved Himself by taking *Usquebah*.

I sat sometime with Lady T. We talked abt. the G's. She said V.G.* was an odd man: That He is in his family suspicious, & locks up, & looks into matters which are quite out of His province, and such as a man should scarcely know.—Mrs. Thurston, formerly Miss Alworthy, had been long known to Sir John Turner. She had one Boy & three girls by Mr. Thurston & has one Child by V.G.—While Mr. Thurston lived she was humoured in the extreme, every attention being paid to Her, but in V G she finds one who will rule.—She spoke most warmly of the great kindness she & Sir John receive from Lord & Lady Thomond, with whom they were made acquainted by Sir Wm. Scott,† on their first coming to Taplow.—She said the open & chearful manner of Lord Thomond banishes reserve & makes every Society into which He goes pleasant: but she observed that His high rank which gave Him authority to address others as He does enabled Him to produce an effect which persons of less pretension cd. not with any propriety attempt.—On my leaving Her she expressed a hope that I would dine with them on Monday next with Lord & Lady Thomond.—Lord Thomond told Sir John this summer that He is 83 years of age.—

On my way back I met Lady Thomond and Mrs. Partington & she asked me to go with them to call upon Mr. & Mrs. Grenfell but they were not at Home.—Mr. Grenfell‡ has two Sons & a daugr. by a former marriage, & Six Children by His present Wife. Lady Thomond shewed me the eldest girl, an elegant child, but the lower part of Her face appeared as if the Skin was off from a Scald, or having been burnt. She sd. the Child was born *without a Skin*, and though all the other parts were now covered, the lower part of Her face remains in the state I have described.

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* Valentine Gardner (brother of Alan, first Lord Gardner), who married Frances, second daughter of Samuel Holworthy, of Elsworthy, and widow of Framington Thruston (formerly Willis), of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

‡ See Vol. III., page 102*n*.

Pitt and God's Mercy

We dined at 5 oClock. Lady Thomond had a *Devonshire pie*, made of mutton and apples.—Lady Thomond spoke highly of the Bishop of Lincoln saying He is an excellent man. Mrs. Rose wife of Geo: Rose M.P. related many particulars respecting the death of Mr. Pitt which she had received from the Bishop's wife.—It was at 3 oClock one morning that Sir Walter Farquhar* awoke the Bishop to inform Him that Mr. Pitt could not live. The Bishop immediately arose & said no time ought then to be lost but that Mr. Pitt shd. be acquainted with His situation. After this was done The Bishop, when alone with Mr. Pitt spoke to Him respecting religion & prayers.—Mr. Pitt in substance said to the Bishop "From my situation in life & public cares weighing heavily upon me I have not attended so much to those duties as I wished & desired, *but you know my mind*." He afterwards added "I rely entirely upon the infinite mercy of God, through the merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ."

Lady Thomond spoke of the great disregard of religion in many fashionable persons. She said Sir Willoughby Aston happening to be at Taplow on a Sunday She asked Him to go to Church. He replied, He wd. go to oblige Her Ladyship, but He had never been at Church since He was married which was twenty years ago. She told [him] if He had no better motive than to oblige Her she wd. not desire Him to go, & He did not.—

Sir John D'Oyly

October 1.—Before breakfast I walked with Mrs. Partington & she spoke of the unhappy state of Sir John D'oyley during His residence in England. He brought from India £80,000 & £25,000 was afterwards remitted to Him, the whole of which was wasted so that He had not money sufficient to fit Him & His daugrs. out & to pay His expences when He returned to India. She, Lady Thomond, & Mrs. Boscawen, to save expence made use of Cloaths left by Lady D'oyley at Her death, and turned them to the best acct. they could in Clothing & decorating the two daugrs. who soon after their arrival in India were married, one to a Son of Sir Walter Farquhar, the other to a Son of Sir Francis Baring; they are both very amiable.—Accounts from Bengal lately recd. from His relations state that Sir John who has a strong impression of religion on His mind, has become low in spirits, & they are apprehensive that it may proceed to something like religious melancholy.—He declines Society, and, when He walks, which He does two or three Hours every day, He seeks to be alone.—He wrote to Mrs. Partington that having seen His Children settled He felt that He had nothing more to do in this world & was resigned to leave it.

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* Of whom it has been said: "A man whose memory is scarcely done justice to, though he was sought after, trusted, and courted in life. If ever there was a man, one who had the wisdom of the serpent and the harmlessness of the dove—that man was Sir Walter Farquhar."

Sir Walter, born in October, 1738, was son of the Rev. Robert Farquhar, Minister of Garioch, Scotland. Educated at King's College, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, he entered the Army Medical Service, and took part in Lord Howe's expedition to Belle Isle in 1761. Leaving the Army, he settled in London, where he became eminent as an apothecary and physician. He was created a Baronet in 1796, and appointed Physician in Ordinary to the Prince of Wales. Sir Walter died in London on March 30, 1819. Sir Henry Raeburn's third contribution to the Royal Academy (1798) was a portrait of Sir Walter, which was engraved by W. Sharp.

His Unhappy Marriage

All His misfortunes & Unhappiness proceeded from His unhappy marriage with a vain & weak woman. The weakness of Her mind rendering her incapable of rational conversation, He sought for it in others who might happen to be associated with them. This created in Her a violent Jealousy, not of anything criminal, but of His preferring others to Herself.—Mr. Johnson at Calcutta was employed in the Law & His Sister resided with Him.—Having occasion to go to Moorshedabad, Lady D'oyley warmly requested that He would bring His sister with Him. This Miss Johnson wd. only agree to upon Condition that she & Her Brother shd. not stay more than a fortnight; Lady D'oyley was so much delighted with Her that she wd. not allow Her to return to Calcutta, and the acquaintance having become established Miss Johnson was induced to return with them to England, where Sir John said He would be Her protector. During several years, except when upon occasional visits, she continued to reside with them, & in Her Sir John finding a rational companion, directed much of his conversation to Her.

Lady D'Oyly's Jealousy

This made Miss Johnson an object of Lady D'oyley's Jealousy on acct. of that notice & preference, it was also the same with respect to Others, & she made His life unhappy. She often bewailed the loss of Her first Husband, saying He shewed her more attention.—She was not satisfied unless He was fondling & kissing Her in a manner disgusting to those who saw it.—She once became so affected by passion in consequence of that jealousy as to cause a *miscarriage*, which Sir John felt so sensibly that He had resolved to separate from Her & to reside abroad, saying that passions carried to an excess as to cause such consequences was *murder*, & He was made in some degree a participator. At different times He resolved on separation, and His temper was sometimes so worked upon, that He wd. say very bitter things to Her.—When He resolved to dispose of D'oyley park, He did not inform Her of it, and an advertisement appeared of which the first knowledge she had was from the Apothecary who attended the family who mentioned it concluding she knew of it.

On the whole Mrs. Partington said Sir John is a very good kind of man & had He married a woman of better understanding & a different disposition He would [have] passed through [life] happily & respectably. —Lady D'oyley died of a Dropsy.—Her passion for dress continued to the last. Three weeks before Her death she ordered *Hats* to the amount of £30 when Sir John could scarcely raise 30 shillings; that inconsiderateness which had ruined His fortunes continued to the last.—

Ill-suited Connections

Lady D'oyley's Brother, Wm. Rochford got an estate from Sir John valued at £7000 in an extraordinary manner & settled it upon Miss Spurling* of Essex, who He married. She had abt. £10,000. They lived very unhappily and ill usage broke His heart, after being long a slave to Commands.—He might have married the daugr. of a rich farmer with £40,000. Her name was Lacey. She was a Roman Catholic. Such are the effects of ill-suited connexions,—improvidence, folly & bad humours.—

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* Probably Miss Sperling, of Dynes Hall, Essex.

CHAPTER VI

1806

Lord Thomond as Waiter

October 1.—At breakfast Lady Thomond said that when the Queen dined with Her at Taplow, Lord Thomond stood the whole time behind Her Majesty with a Napkin under His Arm, & changed Her Majesty's plate.

The Prince of Wales, Father to the present King, resided at Cliefdon. He carried state very high in some respects, never admitting any persons of whatever rank to dine with Him & the Princess at *Cliefdon House*, but when He chose to associate more familiarly, He went with the Princess as incog: to a small House where Craufurd Bruce now resides & there admitted a few to dine with them.—

Princess of Wales

Lady Thomond does not think the Princess of Wales has much sensibility. She has been of that opinion from the time of Her being married, when she appeared to be so easy & unaffected during the ceremony, more like one who was a spectator than one who was changing Her state in life, as to shew great want of feeling.—We all agreed that the familiar manners of the Princess are not suited to Her station in this Country.—She called one day at Mrs. Cholmondely's who resides at lodgings in Jermyn St. Mrs. C & her daugr.* were at dinner. The Princess bid them go & not mind Her, & sat down waiting till they had finished their meal, & then proceeded to conversation.—She calls ar Houses in Her neighboroud at times when it is not convenient to them, & has when she has found them at dinner, said she would walk in the garden till they had finished; in the meantime if persons who happened not to be of the family were at dinner they were obliged to go away.—

Lord Thomond passed a pleasant day at Mr. Cannings.—Carp Turtle &c. Hock, Claret,—Madeira. The Turtle was dressed *too high* & His Lordship suffered inconvenience from it.—

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* See entry under October 4.

Merry be our Hearts

After the Ladies retired Lord Thomond, as usual, gave His first Toast " The Ladies,"—His *last toast* is always " Merry be our Hearts."—He always has a toast to each round of the glass.—He continues to drink Madeira or Port moderately, in all, barely *a pint.* He told us He went to Germany as an Officer in the year 1746 & carried the Colours of the Guards at the battle of Laffeldt in 1747.—He said that at that battle the Corps to which He belonged would have been cut to pieces by a Corps of *French Cavalry*, which was within 50 yards of them, when most opportunely the *Scotch Greys* dashed in upon the French and broke them—That battle He sd. was lost owing to the misconduct of the *Prince of Waldeck*, who being jealous of the Duke of Cumberland having the Chief Command, kept back the German troops & left the English to be overpowered.

Mr. Penton's Sacrifice

Lord Thomond & Sir John spoke of the great sacrifice in respect of Society which Mr. Penton had made in forming His present connexion.—Miss Judd who lives with Him was Mrs. Penton's maid. After His separation from Mrs. Penton in consequence of Her having discovered the connexion, He took Miss Judd to Italy, and had her taught Musick & languages.—Her voice is fine, and she sung so well that Mr. Penton said £1500 a year was offered to Her if she wd. appear upon the Italian Stage. The offer was made at Rome.—She is a fine woman, & now abt. 43 years old. She sits at the head of His table, and is extremely civil & attentive, but Sir John observed that you perceive that she had not always been in the situation of a gentlewoman, in Her manner there is still something which expresses Her to be of a lower order.—Lord Thomond & Sir John have often dined with Mrs. Penton when she has been at table.—The daughters are very modest & pleasing.—

Cursed Stuff

We dine at 5 and drink tea abt. 8.—At tea *Burkes book upon the French Revolution* was spoken of.—Lady Thomond said that admirable & Highly esteemed as that work now is, when it was first published The Prince of Wales asked Lord Thomond " *How the Devil could your friend Burke publish such a Farrago of Nonsense?* " Lord Thomond verified what Her Ladyship had said & repeated the words.—Fox also said " It was Cursed Stuff."—Such is the effect of Party spirit, which suppresses truth & overpowers judgment.—

October 2.—I went with Mrs. Partington to Sir John Turner's, and heard Lady Turner's relation of the conduct of Devillet the French Priest, who resided with them abt. 18 months. He first came to them in 1796 having been recommended by Dr. Scott, Rector of Simonburn. Devillet was abt. 33 years old, & had officiated as a Priest at Evreaux in Normandy.—After having resided with them 18 months, He persisted against all request & urging in remaining with them & said He would do so till after the Revolution.—They then resided at Swale House in Northumberland abt. 9 miles from Alnwick & 2 from Fenton. After having got rid of Him there with extreme difficulty, He entered their House in London repeatedly so as to oblige Sir John to apply to the Marlborough St. Magistrates, & three times He was taken away by Constables.—The last year they did not see Him.—

We dined at 5 oClock.—Lord Thomond spoke to me of the good neighboroud which they have at Taplow, and of the great commercial fortunes of some of them. I have sd, His Lordship one side Craufurd Bruce, & on the other Pascoe Grenfell, and am only a *mile* between them. But Your Lordship is at the top of the Hill, I replied, & He smiled.—

October 3.—At breakfast Mrs. Partington read part of a letter from Mr. Partington mentioning that He had been informed the Prince of Wales during His present Tour has been much out of spirits; has said little to anybody; after eating 2 or 3 bits He has ordered His plate to be taken away; & in return for the great preparations made for Him, He has expressed little acknowledgment, to those who have entertained Him. A medical gentleman who formerly attended Him has expressed much surprise at the great alteration in His appearance.—

A Romantic Story

After breakfast I mentioned to Lady Thomond my intention to stay till Tuesday next, she sd. they shd. be glad if I wd. stay a month; and that I wd. come whenever it may suit me.—

We dined at 5.—Four Servants wait at table every day. One out [of] Livery & 3 in Livery.—There are always two Courses & a Desert. When there is no company [Lord Thomond] does not drink *at dinner* more than two glasses of wine.

Lady Thomond mentioned that at Lord Elliot's* in Cornwall the dining room is filled with family portraits. Among others an Ancestor of His Lordship who was a Colonel in the Service of Charles 1st.—The Army in which He happened to be was defeated & He with others fled. Being close pursued He entered a House to which He was a stranger & running up stairs opened the door of the first room that was before Him. It was a Bedchamber in which two Ladies were in Bed. He told them that He had no chance of escaping from the enemy who were in pursuit of him but by being permitted to hide Himself in their bed. They granted it, & very soon some of the enemy entered the room & demanded the Colonel. The ladies denied having any knowledge of Him & exclaimed against the outrage of coming into their Bedroom.—Every part of the room was however searched, but not finding Him they retired. When the Colonel could make His acknowledgments He did so, & told the Ladies who he was, that he could not marry both of them, but if either of them would accept Him He shd. be most happy. One of the Ladies accepted Him & they were married.—

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* Edward Eliot Craggs, Lord Eliot, of St. Germans.

CHAPTER VII

1806

Fear of the Ministry

October 3.—A note was brought from Mr. Grenfell who was just arrived from London to inform His Lordship that 5 French frigates, 4 of them full of troops, are taken. It is supposed they were destined for *Buenos Ayres.* Sir Saml. Hood lost an Arm in the engagement, but was doing well.—This raised our Spirits, & I told Lord Thomond that *I was afraid of nothing but our Ministry*, who I am still apprehensive retain too much of Mr. Fox's conceding disposition with respect to Buonaparte & France, from the unaccountable stay of Lord Lauderdale at Paris.—

It was said that the troops in the French frigates taken by Sir Saml. Hood consist of Brabanters,—Swiss &c. who express a great desire to be employed in the English Service & seem very glad that they were captured.—

A Dreadful Accident

October 4.—Sir Francis Hartwell, a Commissioner in the Navy came from town in one of the coaches to the Dumb Bell.—At the conclusion of dinner He informed us of a dreadful accident which has happened. The Princess of Wales accompanied by Lady Sheffield & Miss Cholmondely were going in a *Barouche* to Mr. Locks at Norbury Park & having some where on the road taken Post Horses the Drivers at a turn near Leatherhead drove too close & the Barouche was overturned. The Princess was much bruised,—Lady Sheffield was not hurt, but Miss Cholmondely pitching upon Her Head was killed on the spot. She only opened Her eyes once.

Our party was much struck with this acct. but particularly Lady Thomond who had lived long in habits of intimacy with Miss Cholmondely, who was daugr. to the late Revd. Mr. Cholmondely, Uncle to Lord Cholmondely, & Sister to Lady Bellingham.—Lord Thomond sd. Miss Cholmondely had long wished to be abt. the Princess of Wales's person before she was recd. by Her & that she had become a confidential friend to Her. The sad event which has happened shews how little we can foresee what our wishes may lead to.—Lady Thomond was very low all the even'g.—She seemed to pity Lady Bellingham most, as the survivor. Mrs. Cholmondely, the Mother, seemed to be thought by Lord T. & Sir Francis to be of a disposition not likely to feel very pungently.—

Political Intrigue

After the Ladies withdrew Sir Francis informed us that when Lord Grenville proposed to Lord Howick to leave the Admiralty the latter urged that Lord St. Vincent should be appointed. Lord Grenville did not approve it, but after they parted Lord Howick with Lord Grenville's permission drove to Windsor and proposed it to the King, who said " No, No, Lord Sir Vincent does very well at Sea, but is not so proper to be at the Admiralty." This step taken by Lord Howick it is supposed will not be very well thought of by Lord Grenville, as it was not with his inclination proposed,—though He left it to Lord Howick.

Sir Francis said, Lord Howick was not much attached to His situation at the Admiralty, to which He found Himself in many respects incompetent.—The unhandsome behaviour of the Ministry in refusing the thanks of Parliament to Sir Home Popham & Sir David Baird for taking the Cape of Good Hope was mentioned. It was ascribed entirely to Lord St. Vincent's dislike of Sir Home Popham & His influence with Lord Howick caused the thanks to be withheld. Lord Grenville signified that it was a determination of the *Foxites*,—with which He had nothing to do.—

Whitbread is proposed to be Secretary at War, but insists upon a *Seat in the Cabinet* because Windham had one while He was in that situation.—The opinion now given was that the Ministry is not formed of persons who will be very cordial.

[Crauford] Bruce thought the capture of Buenos Ayres a great acquisition to commerce; but He sd. the markets will at first be greatly overstocked for He believed the value of a million wd. be sent at the first burst. He sd. it would be attended with the good effect of disseminating our manufactures into every corner of South America. That Country it was agreed can never again be held by Spain & the true policy to keep it out of the hands of the French wd. be to induce them to establish themselves, under our Naval protection, into a free, independent, government. It wd. require too many troops for England to undertake to attach it to Herself.—Mrs. Bruce is a native of Rochdale in Lancashire, where she was much admired while Miss Polly Smith.—

Captured Frigates

Sir Francis told me that captured Frigates are upon an average purchased at the rate of about £12000 *each*, but to render them fit for British service, in which the internal equipments are very different and much more compleat, it usually costs £12,000 more to make them fit for our service,—so that the *profit* to *the Country* is little or nothing. The value of Captures is in depriving the Enemy of that force, & also of having vessels which may be much sooner prepared for service than others cd. be built.—He sd. the French never equip their Ships as we do, Ours are often so equipped as to be enabled to *keep the Sea* for 4 or 6 months together witht. going into Port; whereas the French are seldom able to remain out of Port more than 6 or 8 weeks. He said Linois, in the East Indies, was never more than 2 months witht. going to the *Mauritius* or the Cape of Good Hope.—

October 5.—Sir Francis Hartwell remarked that while Lord Grenville acted with Mr. Pitt He appeared to be a very able man, but since He became first Lord of the Treasury He has done nothing that manifests great ability.—

Farington's Caution

Lord Thomond informed me that Mr. Palmer, who is on a visit to Mr. Grenfell resides in Windsor Forest. A few months ago He married Lady Madelina Sinclair, a widow, daughter to the Duchess of Gordon.*—We dined off Plate as yesterday.—Champagne was carried round at dinner. After dinner Claret, Port, Madeira, & Sherry.—Four Bottles of Claret were drunk. I drank Sherry & Port & Lord Thomond chiefly Madeira.

Lord Thomond told me before dinner that we must touch upon the conduct of Administration delicately as Mr. Grenfell is attached to Lord Grenville.—I told His Lordship that I never express my sentiments on that subject till I hear those of others.—

Sir Home Popham was spoken of & the great services He has rendered at the Cape of Good Hope & Buenos Ayres. Mr. Grenfell sd. it was to be hoped *that He could show some authority for the expedition to Buenos Ayres, and that He had not undertaken it witht. orders, though it was a great advantage to this Country. A Precedent of His going upon His own judgment wd. be dangerous.*—Lord Thomond sd. Sir Home had done great things for the Country & the people felt it, and had expressed it by votes in London, at Manchester &c. He thought the thanks of Parliament having been witheld from Him after taking the Cape was very ungracious.—Sir Francis said that the ill disposition of Administration against Him had been fully shewn by one circumstance. It was not the intention of Ministers to fire the Tower & Park guns, or to publish an Extraordinary Gazette, upon receiving information of the capture of Buenos Ayres. They actually sent to the Gazette Printer to have it put in the *Common Gazette*.

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* Lady Madelina was a clever girl and was married first to Sir Robert Sinclair, a Scottish baronet. He died six years afterward, and her mother failing to match her with the Earl of Aberdeen, Lady Madelina became the wife of Charles Fysshe Palmer of Luckley Park, Berks. She died in 1847 and is buried at Finchampstead with her second husband.

Constance, Lady Russell, in her "Three Generations of Beautiful Women," says that he was the son of Henry Fish, of Ickwell, Bedfordshire, who assumed the name of Palmer on being left East Court, Finchampstead, by his kinsman, Charles Palmer. Sir John Gordon Sinclair succeeded to East Court at the death of his mother, Lady Madelina Fysshe Palmer, but sold it shortly afterwards to Mr. John Walter, of Bearwood, in whose family it now remains.

Luckily a friend of Sir Home Popham happened to be there at the time & it being at a late Hour, He suggested to the Printer that if it was to be put into the Ordinary Gazette the Gazette wd. not be ready *for the Mail Coach.* This the Printer availed Himself of, & assigned it as a reason in a communication to Ministers, who then in that Dilemma ordered the Guns to be fired at 5 *oClock in the afternoon*, though they had recd. the information at 7 oClock in the morning. An Extraordinary Gazette was also then ordered.—The above fully shews how much Lord Howick &c. partake of the envy & Malignity which Lord St. Vincent is known to bear to Sir Home Popham. The desire of Lord Howick to have Lord St. Vincent again at the Admiralty was mentioned. Mr. Grenfell in this concurred with us by saying "God forbid."*

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* In the expedition against the Cape of Good Hope in 1806, Admiral Sir Home Riggs Popham (1762-1820) co-operated with the land force under Sir David Baird, and the Colony surrendered on January 10. He then sailed for Buenos Ayres to liberate the inhabitants of that place and Monte Video, who, he was told, were "groaning under the tyranny of their Government." Accordingly he, accompanied by a small English force, left Table Bay, and in the middle of June arrived in the Rio de la Plata. The Spanish troops offered little resistance, and, the Governor of Buenos Ayres having fled, the town surrendered on July 2, but was retaken a few days later, and some thirteen hundred British troops were made prisoners. Popham was helpless, apart from blockading the river, until October, when reinforcements arrived and enabled him to occupy the harbour of Maldonado.

On January 5, 1807, Popham was superseded, and on his return to England he was arrested, tried by Court-martial, and "severely reprimanded." His action, however, was popular in the city, and business men holding that it was a brave attempt to secure new markets, presented him with a sword of honour. Popham was afterwards promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral, and was made a K.C.B. in 1815. Besides being a fine seaman, he was also a student of the scientific phases of his profession.

CHAPTER VIII

1806

A Cornish Baronet

October 5.—Sir Francis & Mr. Grenfell spoke of Trelawny* a Cornish Baronet of an Old family. He was at School with Sir Francis.—He was born in 1756. At 20 years of age He was a decided Methodist & was accustomed to preach publickly.—Mr. Grenfell while a school boy, in 1776, Has heard Him preach in that character. He was afterwards ordained—Deacon & Priest *of the Protestant Church*, but is now a *Bigotted Roman Catholick.*—I asked whether there appeared to be abt. Him anything of insanity or flightiness, to which they said No.—Sir Francis said He was a very handsome Boy & indicated nothing of what has since appeared in Him. At *Truro*, I think, Mr. Grenfell sd. He heard Him.

Built of his own Timber

Mr. Palmer spoke of the Duke of Manchester having been employed during the last summer in superintending the building [of] a vessel of 50 *tons* in Kimbolton Park, of Timber growing on His own estate.—After the whole has been put together it is then to be taken to pieces, & conveyed by land & water carriage to Bermondsey.—Upon the Plan upon which it is built He expects that it will be a prime sailor, but shd., it not answer, He proposes to sell it to be used as a Cod Smack.—His passion for sailing induced Him to this attempt. Thus is life passed, some employ is necessary.—

Mr. Palmer told me that the Marquiss of Tavistock informed Him that the Duke of Bedford's anxiety abt. Mr. Fox was relieved after He had undergone the first operation by some of the Medical Men assuring His grace by letter that they entertained strong hopes of his doing well.—Mr. Palmer mentioned the great strength of Coll. Vicars of the Horse Guards. He said the Coll. bore Him upon His Arm held out & moved His arm round with Him. He sd. the Coll. was a very good natured man, had prevented many quarrels & never Himself got into any.—

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* The Rev. Sir Harry Trelawny, bart., who married Anne, daughter of the Rev. James Browne, rector of Portishead and vicar of Kingston, Somerset.

October 6.—It was said that today we are to have a large party to dinner at Sir John Turners.—Lord Thomond said that Dr. Lawrence,* —Grenfell, & Sir John, wd. have all the talk to themselves so that His Lordship,—Lord Boston,—Mr. Palmer & I might be silent. Lady Thomond wd. not agree to it saying that with His natural good spirits if His Lordship shd. be silent she shd. feel that He must be ill.—I sd. that in so large a company I shd. be desirous to say little, as I never liked to Hear the sound of my own voice but in small parties of those with whom I was well acquainted.—

It was sd. that we are to have *a pike* of 13 pounds weight. I sd. Dr. Lawrence having the reputation of being a large eater wd. make a figure at it.—They sd. His appetite is prodigious. Sir Wm. Scott's wife says that if the Doctor dines where there are sweet things none wd. be left for the next day.—The Doctor has always been a *great Foxite*, and says Mr. Pitt was more obliged to Windham, than He to Pitt.—

After breakfast Lord Thomond shewed me His farming conveniences. —He does all His farming business before breakfast, His Steward then attending with a report of the proceedings, & on a paper marked how the different farming men, & Artificers, are to be employed that day; so that His Lordship knows where to find them.—I spoke of the healthful occupation and the advantage of having a motive for being in the open air.—He said, at His time of life He cd. not go on witht. it.

We dined at Sir John Turners at ½ past 5 oClock.—We had two Courses and a desert. The *dishes* were silver,—we dined off China.—Four large Silver Vessels held wine at 4 corners of the table.—Burgundy & Liquers were served round.—Claret, Madeira, Port & Sherry were circulated.—Lord Boston† spoke to me of having met me before.— Dr. Lawrence, also, of having met me at Lord Thomond's & Sir Joshua Reynold's.—

Savages and Methodists

Mr. Grenfell yesterday said Methodists abound in Cornwall and well it is so, He sd. as the people wd. otherways be *Savages*,—many are situated far from a Church, & wd. have no religion but *for the Methodist* Preachers who on a Sunday evening draw them together, & engage them for that time which they wd. spend at the Ale-house.

October 9.—Brand,‡ the Secretary of the Antiquary Society died of an Appoplexy. He was 63 years old. He has left His property to an Aunt aged 86 and Superannuated, & under the management of a Servant. His living was abt. £300 a year. The Duke of Northumberland, &

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* See Vols. I. and III.
† See Vol. III., page 104.
‡ The Rev. John Brand. See Vol. III.

St. Mary Hill parishioners, appoint a Minister alternately.—His Salary, as Secretary, was abt. £90. a year, and an apartment, Coals, and Candles. —His Books, & Prints are supposed to be worth between two & three thousand pounds.—His Collection of Prints *of Portraits* is judged to be worth a thousand pounds.—He was much mortified at Lawrence not having finished the picture of *Mrs. Lysons* & *Mrs. Price* which was begun in May 1801.—

Lawrence set off on Sunday last with Mr. Angerstein for Sir Francis Barings in Hampshire to paint three portraits.—

General Miranda

October 10.—Harker, a respectable man, came to cut my Hair. He told me that general Miranda* has at this time a House in Grafton St. Fitzroy Square, where a Lady who lived with him while He was in England, & Her Child, now reside.—Harker dressed the Generals Hair more than two years, and said He is a stout man, about 5 feet 11 Inches high, and is towards 60 years of age.—He speaks English so as to be perfectly understood. He frequently attended at *Mr. Pitt's Office*, and was for a considerable time doing business there, though it was so managed as not to be made public,—He bore an inveterate hatred against Buonaparte & frequently sd. He had neither honor or principle. —It is undoubted that Miranda is supported by this country in his attempt against *South America*, though it has been done secretly. He is a Spanish subject & for sometime served in the French Army.

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* Francesco Miranda (1750-1816), a Spanish-American General, served under Dumouriez in Flanders, but, accused by the Jacobins of treason, was ultimately banished from France. In 1806 he went to Guatemala, where he had previously taken part in a revolutionary movement, but was arrested in 1812 and died in a dungeon at Cadiz four years afterwards.

CHAPTER IX

1806

Fox's Funeral

October 10.—Mr. Fox's funeral took place to-day.—I walked to Pallmall & saw that street lined with people, & the street gravelled; but I did not [wait] to see the procession.

Novels Not to be Seen

October 13.—Robert Smirke drank tea with me.—Lady Oxford* shews the greatest attention to the education of Her children. She is constantly with them from ten oClock in the morning till one, during which time they receive instructions. Lady Jane, a child of 10 years old has made such advance in learning various things as to be remarkable.—Lady Oxford never allows a book of any kind except such as she may have read and approved, to lay in a room to which the Children have access. Novels & such like are not permitted to be seen.—Lady Oxford blames Her Brother for having introduced Arthur O'Connor† to them, of whose real character they had no Idea.

Lord Oxford has £13000 a year, but at present pays £4000 a yr. out of it. His mother posesses an estate of £5000 a yr. adjoining His property. This will come to His Lordship at Her death.—

There is insanity in the family of Mr. [Uvedale] Price. His eldest daugr. 22 or 3 years old, has been confined, but now visits with them. She is deformed & has many singularities.—Price is answering [Payne] Knight's book.—A decided coolness has subsisted between them. Lady Oxford was apprehensive of Knight remaining with them till Price & His family came, which she shd. have felt herself obliged to prevent by informing Knight of it had He continued with them till near the period.—Lady O: sd. Knight is not liked in the country.

Inflamed with Tears

October 15.—[Dr.] Hayes called.—He was at Mr. Fox's funeral, walking as a Member of the Whig Club.—He sd. that at the grave He observed several who were greatly affected; particularly, Lords Holland, Fitzwilliam, & Howick,—also Mr. Whitbread, all of whom had their faces inflamed with tears.—The Duke of Norfolk also appeared to be much impressed,—also Lord Grenville & Lord Carlisle.—Sheridan also, —Hayes thinks Him [Sheridan] greatly altered & Has no doubt from His appearance that His Liver is much inflamed,—& thinks it will ere long terminate in a Dropsy.—

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* See Vol. II., page 36.

† Irish rebel, with whom Lady Oxford went about in Paris in the autumn of 1802. See Index, Vol. II.

Russell* died at Hull, aged 61.—His habit of life had for sometime been very singular.—Finding that if He eat a dinner at the usual time it made Him very heavy & incapable of application during the remainder of the evening, He was accustomed to eat His *substantial meal in the morning* at breakfast time.—His professional application was very great, & to that & to His study of the appearance of the moon, He often devoted the Hours of the night till 2 or 3 oClock in the morning.

Architects' Fees

October 16.—Jeffery Wyatt called to mention his being upon the list of Candidates to be an Associate.—On the back of his *Direction Card* He had put a list of Houses built for various persons to shew that He was a Regular Architect.—He talked a good deal abt. His Uncle James Wyatt, now President of the Royal Academy.—He sd. He had now been out of town 4 months witht. once having come to London. He has moved from Mr. Codringtons† to Mr. Beckfords‡ & from thence to Lord Pembrokes & the Marquiss of Hertfords, backwards & forwards, neglecting all his business in other places. For the distance He travels He charges *Half a Crown a mile*, but does not charge *for time while travelling;* but when stationary at any House He charges five guineas a day.—I, said Jeffery charges two shillings a mile *for travelling*, and three guineas a day while stationary.—He said His Uncle is a very singular man. He will often employ Himself upon trifling professional matters which others could do, while business of importance is waiting for Him.—When a Commission to build a house or to do other professional business is proposed to Him by a Nobleman or Gentleman by whom He has never before been employed, He will eagerly attend to it till He has got all the instructions necessary for the commencement of the work, but then He becomes indifferent to it & has lost many great commissions by such neglect they having after long delay been put into the hands of others.—At times He will when at the House of an employer work very hard in making designs & will frequently leave the Company & bottle after dinner to go to His Clerk.—Such is the irregularity of his habits.—

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Christopher Codrington obtained the vast estates of his uncle, Sir William Codrington, second baronet, who disinherited his own son. The baronetcy, created in 1721, was in dispute for some years, but in 1876 a fresh baronetcy was conferred on Sir Gerald William Henry Codrington, of Dodington Park, Gloucestershire.

‡ William Beckford. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Jeffery sd. that abt. 4 months ago He (Jeffery) was at Fonthill & saw the *Abbey* which is so strictly forbidden to be shewn that His Uncle, who was then there, could not undertake to shew it to Him. He therefore threw Himself in the way of Mr. Beckford who asked Him to go to the Abbey where He dined & staid the night. The Miss Beckfords did not then reside at the Abbey or at the Old House at Fonthill, but at a House in a neighbouring village. Such is Beckfords singularity.—Not long since Sir Richard Hoare of Stourhead* applied to Mr. Beckford to see *the Abbey* which Mr. B. granted and attended Sir Richard when He came for that purpose. These civilities which passed between them were reported to the neighbouring gentlemen who took such umbrage at it, as conceiving that Sir Richard was giving countenance to Mr. Beckford that a gentleman wrote to Sir Richard in His own name & in that of others to demand of Him an explanation of that proceeding as they meant to regulate *themselves towards Him accordingly.* Sir Richard applied to His friend the Marquiss of Bath upon it, & represented that He had no further desire but to see the Abbey & the meeting with Mr. Beckford was accidental & to Him unexpected.—Such is the determination of the Wiltshire gentlemen with respect to excluding Mr. B. from all gentlemanly intercourse.

Sir Richard had No Taste

Jeffery said that He concluded Mr. Beckford had heard something of what had passed, as at breakfast He said before Jeffery "He wondered how He could be such a d——d fool as to allow Sir Richard to see the Abbey."—With respect to the stain upon Mr. B's character He seems to act like an innocent man & does not avoid a subject of that nature.—Mr. Beckford sd. that Sir Richd. Hoare while looking over the Abbey made some good observations but He afterwards sd. "Sir Richard had no taste."—

James Wyatts sons have been very improvident.—The eldest had He remained at Calcutta wd. have been appointed by Marquiss Wellesley, Secretary to the Governor General, a place of £10,000 a year. He complained of ill-health, but it was sd. to be only a *Home fever*,—a desire to go Home.—

A Painting by Barry

October 17.—Carlisle, the Surgeon,† called, & proposed to me to go with Him to Dr. Fryers‡ House in Newman St. to see Barry's picture of the "*Birth of Pandora.*" A picture which had been his chief Study & Boast during 33 years at least.—I went & saw it & found it to be such a production as I might have expected. Ingenuity in the Design,

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[*] See Index, Vol. II.

[†] Sir Anthony Carlisle. See Index, Vols. II. and III.

[‡] Edward Fryer (1761-1826) studied in London, Edinburgh, and Leyden, graduating M.D. at the Dutch University town on January 29, 1785. He came to London in 1790, became Physician to the Duke of Sussex, and died in Upper Charlotte Street on January 9, 1826. Dr. Fryer attended Barry in his last illness, and wrote the artist's life.

but nothing extraordinary & a great deal of Mythological circumstance attended to, but in respect of power of execution & colouring very defficient.—Poorly & ill-drawn, disproportioned figures,—and the colouring *as bad as well* could be.—On the whole I told Carlisle that I thought it far short of anything extraordinary & very much indeed below those great works of the Old Masters, which Barry had attempted to rival.—I told Carlisle that in the hands of a man who had more power in the *practise of the art* the design would appear to much greater advantage & do Barry more credit,—that Lawrence for instance would be able to make much of it.—He admitted this.—Carlisle told me that Barry died of an *inflammation of the Lungs*, & named the species of the disorder, saying it was such as people who are advanced in years & *asthmatically inclined* are subject to. Barry was in that state. He sd. had Barry been *bled* at an early period of his disorder He might probably have been saved.—He sd. He was surrounded by Roman Catholics.—

We then talked of the character & qualities of Barry & I found from the information I recd. from Carlisle that I had not been mistaken in the judgment I had formed of him. I had long been of opinion from the knowledge I had of his disposition, that He had *saved money*, although He allowed it to be reported that He was in a state of necessity, and permitted a Subscription to be opened for his benefit at the Society of Arts room in the Adelphi.—Carlisle now told me that being one of those who have the management of his affairs He cd. inform me that Barry at his death, posessed £1500 in the American Funds,—£500 Bank Stock,—and had £400 at Wright, the Bankers in Henrietta St. Covent Garden, which had laid there 3 *years*. Yet in these circumstances & posessing such a misanthropical contempt of the world & the utmost independence of spirit, He anxiously encouraged the above Subscription, which was made as for *one Destitute*.—His affectation of independence on mankind was carried to a ridiculous length.—

A Paying Guest

When He has drank tea with *Stubbs* the painter, He wd. lay *Sixpence* upon *the tea-board*, because He wd. be under no obligation to Him but for his company.—He wd. do the same at Houses where He occasionally dined. Carlisle said Barry wd. in the midst of his blustering of independence and disregard of mankind suddenly change His manner of Behaviour if a Person of some weight & authority came in & would then assume a courteous address.—He was very unsteady in His resolutions, was easily impressed with an opinion, & as readily was converted to its opposite by the person He next met.—He read Latin pretty well; and from some papers found in His posession appeared to have been at the latter part of his life studying the Greek language.— At the bottom He was of a timid disposition & had no real reliance upon Himself.—He dreaded a rival in his desire of acquiring fame; & only began to profess to adulate Sir Joshua Reynolds when that great Artist, from infirmities, ceased to practise.—

CHAPTER X

1806

A Doctor's Charges

October 17.—Carlisle told me that in his practise as a Surgeon when He goes out of town He charges at the rate of a *guinea a mile ;* and that for every day He might be detained at any place He should charge Ten guineas a day, or Seventy guineas a week ; which He observed was not too much as more than that might be lost to Him eventually owing to His being absent when persons might apply to Him & thereby losing their custom.—

Language and Insurance

October 23.—J. Offley's I dined at.—Minet, who was born in Portugal,* told me that the affinity of the Portuguese to the Spanish language is such [that they] understand each other so far that the people of either country could travel in the other by the use of their respective languages, or *Lingo* as He called. The Portuguese, however, wd. better understand the Spaniards than the latter wd. the former. It is by the *ear* they understand each other, making out the signification of the words. When written the languages are very different.—Minet told me that an Officer ordered to go abroad and wanting money for His outfit &c. may insure His life at any one of the Public Offices of Insurance. That at 31 years of age He might insure His life on a policy for 7 *years* at the rate of 5 pr. [cent.] per annum viz : £50 a yr. for £1000 insured.—The Policy thus obtained the Officer may obtain money upon [it] by offering it at the Stock Exchange or elsewhere, and wd. there probably obtain £500 upon it. Not more because the person who might advance the £500 wd. have to pay annually the £50 premium till the Officers death to secure Himself.

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* Joseph Minet, wine merchant, was born in Lisbon, and baptised in St. Catherine's Church, in that city. His family were Huguenots, and two of its members came to England in 1686, Isaac (from whom comes Mr. William Minet, of Fountain Court, barrister, and author of the "Huguenot Family of Minet"), and Thomas, ancestor of Joseph. James, Joseph's father, went to the Azores, married Maria Dupont, and apparently must have reverted to the Roman Catholic faith, for his three children were all baptised Catholic. Joseph came early to England, and married a Huguenot lady, named Brissault, and his descendants live at Ealing to-day.

In fact the Policy wd. be a security for £500 in case of the Officers death, who should He live to return home wd. be liable to be arrested for the £500 & the premium advanced to continue the insurance.—

October 24.—Calcott called. He told me He was born at Kensington gravel pits in the House in which He now resides.—He sd. He has found an advantage in residing a little way from London as He is not now so liable to have His time invaded by Loungers who in London were accustomed to call upon Him to look over His Portfolios.—

Defeat of the Prussians

October 27.—J. Offley called and informed me that an acct. had been recd. from Lord Morpeth that the *Center* of the Prussian Army had been defeated by Buonaparte on the 14th of October ;—that the Duke of Brunswick was wounded & carried to Magdeburgh,—& the King of Prussia had two Horses shot under Him.—

Boaden* I met while walking before dinner. We talked of the defeat of the Prussians. "What else, sd. He, cd. be expected."—The weaker are overpowered by the stronger. Were an Epic Poem to be written and Milton were on one side of you & Tom D'urfey on the other which wd. you expect most from ?—He called Buonaparte an extraordinary man,—that in using his power all proceeded from *one head*, *His own*.—That all His operations agreed to a point.—

October 28.—Calcott dined yesterday with Willis [F.S.A.] at Kensington.—He has one Son & three daugrs. the eldest daugr. towards 30 years of age,—the second abt. 23 or 4 highly (Classically) educated.—The Son is a Clergyman.—Calcott supposes Willis to have places to the amount of near £2000 a yr.—He seems a good deal altered in spirits & appearance since He lost a daugr. of 15 yrs. of age abt. 10 months ago.—When He has company He passes the Bottle chearfully & will take Himself towards a Bottle. He mentioned to Calcott His long acquaintance with me.—It began in 1769 at Old Slaughters Coffee Youse, St. Martins Lane.—Mrs. Willis sd. Willis is not 60 years old, but He must be in His 60th year at least.—He is Coll. of the Kensington Corps of Volunteers & is much respected.—

Sir Wm. Paxton now Member for Carmarthenshire made a fortune in the East Indies. He is Brother to Mr. Paxton, Wine Mercht. of Buckingham St. York Buildings & of the late Mr. Paxton, Portrait Painter, who died in India.†—He is a partner with Cockerill &c. at a Banking House in Pallmall.—

October 30.—To-day a confirmation of the defeat of the Prussians, by the French, at the battle of Averstadt, on the 14th of October, was recd. from Hamburgh.

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* James Boaden, Editor of the *Oracle*. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† John Paxton, who went to India about 1776 and died at Bombay in 1780.

[The Hamburgh paper of the 21st inst. brought the Prussian account of the disastrous battle fought near Aversdat on the 14th. of October, on the High road between Navenbergh & Erfurt,—the attack was made at 3 in the Morning by the French. The Conflict lasted till 5 in the afternoon, when according to the information recd. Marshal Ney's division of 10,000 men, coming up fresh, gave a decisive turn to the affair. It was the Center of both Armies which were particularly engaged, Buonaparte directed the whole of the French operations. The killed and wounded on both sides are generally estimated at 40,000 men. The strength of the Combined Armies united is computed at 200,000 men.—On the receipt of the above account at Berlin a number of the following Bulletins were circulated: "*The King has lost a Battle.—The first duty of a Citizen is to be tranquil. This is what I, the Governor, demand of all the inhabitants of Berlin. The King and His Brother are living.*" Previous to the above battle the battle of Schleitz, with which the Campaign opened, was fought, on the 10th of October, in which Prince Louis Ferdinand, of Prussia, Cousin to the King, was killed. He was abt. 35 years of age.—On the 11th of October an action also took place at Saalfield. The troops in both these actions, on the Prussian side were under the general orders of Prince Hohenhoe.—From small note-book.]

October 31.—Daniell mentioned the unhappy death of Sutton Sharpe who abt. three weeks ago was found drowned at the bottom of one of His *Vats* in His Brewery.—He had been sometime in a state of low spirits.

A Prototype of Colonel Lawrence

November 1.—Henry Salt,* formerly my Pupil, called.—He landed on Sunday last at Portsmouth from the Neptune Man of War, in which He came with Lord Valentia a passenger from Gibraltar. He had accompanied His Lordship in a very extensive tour in India. They left England in 1802 in the month of June. Salt was Six months in *Abyssinia*, and met with several persons in that country who remembered the *Traveller Bruce*. He sd. much of what [James] Bruce published was *authentic*, but He also added a *good deal* of the *fabulous*.—He described

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* Henry Salt (1780-1827), youngest son of a doctor, was born in Lichfield. Intending to be a portrait painter, he studied drawing under Glover, the water-colour painter, and, coming to London in 1797, he became a pupil of Farington, and, in 1800, entered the studio of John Hoppner. Drawings made by him illustrate "Voyages and Travels to India," 1809, by Lord Valentia, in the same year. "Twenty-four Views in St. Helena and Egypt" were published by Salt himself, and in 1814 he published "A Voyage to Abyssinia," for which he received £800, with a share in the profits. In the following year he was appointed Consul-General in Egypt. During his period of office there he took a great interest in excavation, and formed for himself three large collections. The first was bought for the British Museum for £2,000 (Salt said it cost him £3,000); the second went to the French Government for £10,000, and the third was sold after his death at Sotheby's, and realized £7,168 18s. 6d. Salt, who was a man of strong physique and restless temperament, died from a disease of the spleen in October, 1827, and was buried in Alexandria.

Abyssinia to be in a true *Feudal state* but very barbarous.—Perpetual Hostility is kept up by what in Scotland wd. be called *Clans* who are constantly at War with each other. *Axum*, was the principal town which Salt visited, & there He found some antiquities which it is expected will throw some light upon a controverted point in History.—He travelled in Abyssinia in an Arab-dress, but as an *Englishman*, and was well treated but suffered great privations & underwent many difficulties owing to the wretched & unprovided state of the country. The Christian religion is established in Abyssinia, it is a species of the *Greek Church* inclining to the *Koptic*. He mentioned a *single stone* erected at *Axum*, which is 80 *feet high*. Bruce gave a very imperfect drawing of it.—

Unarmed and Fearless

Lord Wellesley provided every accomodation to enable Lord Valentia to accomplish the object of His voyage to the *Red Sea* after He left *Calcutta* by which means His Lordship had a very correct Survey made of a part of the Coast with which our Mariners were not before acquainted in consequence of which many vessels had been lost. It was now found that there are several excellent Harbours on that Coast where Ships in bad weather may find safety.—An apprehension of *danger from the natives* had prevented any attempts from before being made, but Lord Valentia's party landed & presented themselves to the Natives unarmed and as having perfect confidence in them which had the desired effect, & soon created an equal degree of confidence on the part of the natives who wd. visit the Ship unarmed & fearless.

Salt spoke of the many circumstances which had taken place during His absence. He had not heard from any of His friends in the last years. He saw in an English newspaper, an acct. of the death of His Brother Dr. Salt.—On coming to London He met a person in the street who told him His Father had again married. He also had learnt that His Sister, widow of Dr. Hall, was married to Coll. De Visme & has two children,—& that they make up £1000 a year between them.—He sd. that He found in London that in four years & a Half Lads whom He knew had become *men*, & young girls *Women*.—

He Kept a Diary

He sd. He had kept a regular *Journal* & Had the good fortune to preserve every drawing and all that He had written.—Lord Valentia had also been very industrious in writing a Journal, & was now consulting proper persons as to the best mode of preparing for publication an acct. of the Tour.—His Lordship did not go to visit Abyssinia. Salt sd. His Lordship had too great a stake in life & was of too much importance to have His life risqued by it, but for Himself it was comparatively of no consequence.—He sd. He was to go this night in the Mail to Lichfield to see His Father.—He was 26 years of age in June last.—

CHAPTER XI

1806

Ships in Commission

November 1.—[The Naval returns, up to this day, state the number of Ships, *In Commission* to be—

Of the Line,	130.
Fifties.	12.
Frigates.	163.
Sloops &c.	181.
Gun Brigs & under.	261.
	747.
In Ordinary.—	
Of the Line.	52.
Fifties.	13.
Frigates.	60.
Sloops &c.	46.
Gun Brigs & under.	5.
	923.
Building :	
Of the Line.	38.
Frigates.	31.
Sloops &c.	51.
Gun brigs & under.	8.
Total :	1051.

From Small Note-book.]

Lawrence and West

November 3.—Lawrence called having returned from Sir Francis Barings, Stratton Park, in Hampshire this morning,—where He had been from the 5th. of October.—He painted portraits of Sir Francis,—

His Brother,—and His Son in Law & Partner, in one picture, each figure a half length.—Before He came away Sir Francis desired to know what He was indebted to Him.—Lawrence mentioned 260 *guineas*, but Sir Francis sd. it shd. be 300 gs.—which I think was the least He ought to have as His price *in London is* 80 *guineas* a half length,—so that He was but moderately paid for loss of time & inconvenience.—His portraits (the Heads being finished) have given great satisfaction, & the more so from being compared with those painted by West.—Sir Francis asked Lawrence whether West ever took the opinion of any Artist upon His works? adding that while West was painting for Him, He made a few observations but West paid no regard to them.

Lawrence and Henry Hope

Henry Hope* of Cavendish Square came on a visit and once before Lawrence spoke of the Royal Academy with more freedom than was becoming as a Member was present, but Lawrence very properly cut Him short.—Hope sd. it wd. be adviseable to have for a President a person not professional, but a man of distinction, Sir George Beaumont He then named.—

November 5.—Thomson [R.A.] called. He spoke of electing a President in the room of Wyatt, & sd. He wd. never vote for Him.—I sd. the Academy now saw what they had done in causing Mr. West to resign the Chair.—He asked whether He might not again be elected? I replied that all I knew was, that Mr. West had expressed to me the comfort He had felt from having quitted that situation. He asked "Why might not the members have each *two Balls* to enable them each to have a power of nominating two persons." In which case a Member might vote for Himself and for another.—I sd. I saw no good in that: but I saw that shd. any Painter *except* West be elected it wd. cause much Heart burning in others.—

Lysons & Lawrence dined with me.—Lawrence told me that it was manifest to Him that Shee & Hoppner do not hold intercourse together.†—

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* Henry Hope, wealthy merchant and art collector.

† Mr. W. Roberts writes: In the Farington Diary, November 5, 1806, the Diarist says: "Lawrence told me that it was manifest to Him that Shee and Hoppner do not hold intercourse together." Of course, the troubles at the Royal Academy over the Presidentship may have caused at least a temporary coolness among some of the members. I doubt, nevertheless, if Lawrence was justified in his observation. I have a copy of Hoppner's "Oriental Tales, translated into English Verse," 1805, on the fly-leaf of which is written the following inscription to Shee: "June 7, 1805. My dear Shee,—I request your acceptance of this little volume in testimony of our mutual friendship, and as a humble tribute to your virtues and talents, which none can regard with greater admiration, nor cherish with more affectionate zeal than yours ever faithfully, J. Hoppner."

In the George Daniel Library there was a copy of Shee's "Rhymes on Art," 1805, on the fly-leaf of which was written: "My dear Hoppner,—In return for your elegant volume let me request you will accept this little work as a testimony of ardent esteem and friendship. While the two books remain they will prove that in a time of much professional jealousy there were *two painters* at least who could be emulous without being

November 6.—Mr. Packe & Revd. Mr. Whalley called.—They spoke highly of Mr. Fawkes the new Member for Yorkshire,*—saying that He is a man of great abilities & information ;—a Scholar, acquainted with Arts & Sciences & likely to make an excellent member.—He was supported [by] the Duke of Norfolk & Lord Fitzwilliam.—

Belvoir *Castle* stands in Leicestershire, the *Stables* in *Lincolnshire.* The Duke [of Rutland] has caused His Brother to offer for Leicestershire. The Duke has a large estate in that County. Altogether His property is reckoned to be £40,000 a year & He is disposed to take care of it.—He lays out money in building, but does not *game*, or squander His money idly.—A subscription was made in the County for the Volunteers. The Duke subscribed £500, but He took for *His Corps* £800 from the general funds of £8000 & thereby saved His *own pocket.* It is remarkable that in that family it has been usual to portion the younger Brothers by giving to each an *annuity only* & that £500 *a year*,—the rest to be done by the family interest. The Duke gave the Receivership of the County of Leicester to Mr. Mansfield a Banker in Leicester, it is worth £3000 a year, but He conditioned that His Brother shd. be paid from it £1500 a year, viz : one half.—

Sir G. & Lady Beaumont called having come to town yesterday. We talked a little abt. politics. He sd. He cd. scarcely bear to read the accts. from Germany.—They were going to *Wilkie's* to see the picture painted by Him for Sir George "The Blind Fidler."—Sir George had been a month at Lord Mulgrave's in Yorkshire where Wilkie & Jackson also were. Sir George said Wilkie painted well anything that He saw & understood to represent, "Cattle, more justly than *Berghem*, less of the *Manufactory.*"—

The Blind Fiddler

November 7.—Being engaged to dine with Sir G. Beaumont He called upon me before dinner & we walked to Wilkie's in Soho row, No. 10, but did not find Him at home.—We saw His picture of the "*Blind Fidler*" which He painted for Sir George. I was surprised at the merit of it viz : truth of expression, judicious arrangement, and agreeable tone of colouring. I had only two remarks to make viz :

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envious; who could contend without enmity, and associate without suspicion. That this cordiality may long subsist between us is the sincere desire of, dear Hoppner, yours ever faithfully, Martin Archer Shee. Cavendish-square, December 7, 1805."

I think it will be conceded that Lawrence was in all probability entirely mistaken in supposing that "Shee and Hoppner do not hold intercourse together."

[Mr. Roberts will find in Vol. III., page 211, a reference to the Shee-Hoppner quarrel, and in the present volume, under February 1, 1807, it is stated that Shee "has no longer intercourse with Hoppner." The probable cause of the estrangement also is given.—Ed.]

* Charles James Packe, of Prestwold Hall, born 1726, High Sheriff Co. Leicester. He died in 1816, and was succeeded by his eldest son. His second daughter (by his first wife) was the mother of the first Lord Bateman. The Rev. T. Whalley, of Ecton, near Northampton; Mr. W. R. Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, Turner's great friend and patron. See Index' Vol. II.

that the colour of the ground was rather too *grey*, and that there was in some of the Hands a little of a *manner'd touch*.—Sir George told me that when He gave Wilkie the Commission He proposed 25 guineas to Wilkie, but when He met Wilkie, at Lord Mulgrave's in Yorkshire, being informed that the picture was finished and hearing from Lord Mulgrave how much it had been commended [by Holt] in "*Bell's Weekly Messenger*" He gave Wilkie 50 guineas for it.—On our way from Wilkie's I told Sir George that I hoped Wilkie wd. be careful how He recd. Commissions,—that His *pictures are gold*, and He should reap all the advantages He is entitled to.—

Sir George sd. that Jackson says Wilkie is very *oeconomical*, from which Sir George apprehends the greatest danger is that He may become fond of money.—The hope that He may continue to practise as He does at present with care & attention, studying nature. Had West done so from the time He painted the *Pylades & Orestes* He wd. have produced extraordinary works & not have fallen into that *Polygraphic like* manufacturing mode of painting which He has adopted.—

Burns and Wordsworth

At dinner Sir George spoke of Mr. Pitt & His shyness. When in company He seldom proposed a subject for conversation. After tea Lady Beaumont read some poetical compositions of Burn's—& Wordsworth.—The latter is now with His family in Sir George's farm House at Cole-orton.—Wordsworth's House at Grassmere is too small for his family & too cold in the winter. He is employed on a poem—the *progress of His own Mind*, viz: How He was affected by objects & circumstances as He advanced in life.—This work He proposes to delay publishing till He shall have made Himself more important & [of] course what respects Him more interesting, by some production of a different kind.—

CHAPTER XII

1806

Hoppner's Jealousy

November 8.—Hoppner called on me,—on the state of the Academy. He sd. it was impossible to go on with Wyatt [P.R.A.] if the Academy shd. be left unsupported it must fall. He sd. difference of opinion in the Academy on certain points had prevailed but He always had a great respect for me. He sd. that He looked with a belief that it was my wish to have Lawrence elected President, but that not thinking it at present practicable I was willing to fix upon some one who wd. not interfere with Lawrence. He said it seemed extraordinary that a man of my Character shd. be so partial to one so different from me in His conduct as Lawrence was.—I replied to Him that His notions were founded on Jealousy; that I had while I held intercourse with Him seen more of Him than I did of Lawrence & never gave to the latter a preference. Our conversation on this point concluded with His agreeing to vote for *West* which I sd. wd. be the best thing possible to prevent Jealousy & difficulties.—

Lawrence I called on. Kemble has informed Him that Stafford cost Sheridan much money. Every Election drained His purse. Each time not less than £8,000.—

Prussia had Fallen

November 9.—Went to St. James's Chapel, and while I was walking before the time of going into the Chapel Edwards [A.R.A.] came up being on His way to Hampstead.—He told me His publication of the lives of the Painters is in great forwardness. . . He noticed the state of affairs in Europe owing to the overwhelming power of Buonaparte, & said it must have an end 'ere long.—That Prussia had fallen a sacrifice to Her want of a good principle & that if that Monarchy should be abolished it must be recollected that it was but a new one.—

Lysons called—At Ralph Price's* yesterday He met the Editor of the Times.* Mr. Walter Junr, has the superintendance of that paper and has a very honorable mind & refuses to admit into it many things which other papers take.—[The editor] said that Monday next being Lord Mayors Day He had in his posession 7 *tickets*. One of them was given to them, the other Six He purchased for 35 *guineas*. The money was paid from the *Newspaper Fund*, as the Tickets were to be presented to persons who assist them in obtaining information for their paper. Lysons understood that they are *Foreigners ;* & that paper is now allowed to have the best foreign intelligence.

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* Third son of Sir Charles Price, first Baronet, of Spring Grove, Richmond, Surrey.

Dinner with Sir George

Sir G. Beaumont's I dined at. The Revd. Sydney Smith† was talked of.—Sir George sd. that when Smith lectured at the British Institution there was a levity & indifference in his manner that seemed but ill suited to the office,—and He gave some instances of it. Davy‡ who lectures there upon Chemistry, said that Smith is not reckoned to have much reading, or extensive information, but Has talent, & is now well recd. at *Holland House*, & may probably be a *Bishop*.

When we went to tea, Wilkie not having come into the room, His picture of the *Blind Fidler* lately painted for Sir George was spoken of. Dance said " It had all the discriminations of *Hogarth*, & was ten times better painted."

Wilkie told me that He was born in the County of *Fife* in Scotland, at a country place : that He was placed in Edinburgh for the purpose of improving Himself in drawing & attended the Drawing Academy established there for the purpose of improving Manufactures & encouraging the Fisheries, four years ; during which time *Graham*, the

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* The term editor in 1806 was perhaps less definite than it is nowadays, and there may not have been a *de facto* editor of the *Times* in 1806. At that date young John Walter II. had recently come into the general directorship of the paper, and his chief adviser was William Combe, author of " Dr. Syntax," who was living within the rules of the King's Bench, but was often allowed out, and visited Printing House Square. Crabb Robinson has an interesting reference to Combe in his Diary. " There is," he says, " another person belonging to this period (1809) who is a character worth writing about ; indeed, I have known few to be compared with him. It was on my first acquaintance with Walter [of the *Times*] that I used to notice in his parlour a remarkably fine old gentleman. He did not appear to work much with the pen, but was chiefly a consulting man. When Walter was away he used to be more at the office, and to decide at the *dernier ressort*. His name was William Combe." Crabb Robinson, the Diarist, also was on the staff, and it may be him who is described by Lysons as " Editor of the *Times*." Had it been Combe, Lysons would doubtless not have forgotten his name, for the antiquary and Dr. Syntax were familiar, whereas Crabb Robinson was a newcomer.

† See Index, Vol. III.

‡ Sir Humphry Davy (1778-1829) was a native of Penzance. Papers on nitrous oxide secured for him the post of Assistant Lecturer on Chemistry to the Royal Institution, and shortly thereafter he was raised to the chief lectureship. In 1815 he invented the miners' safety lamp that bears his name.

Painter, superintended the Students.* Wilkie came to London at the end of May or beginning of June 1805. He had while He was in Scotland painted the Village fair which I saw sometime ago.—He was not under any Master while He was in Scotland.—He spoke of Saunders the Miniature painter who He sd. was encouraged to come to London by Sir Walter Farquhar [the physician]. He sd. Saunders had great ability, and finding that miniature painting hurts His eyes proposes to practise *in large.*—

Wilkie & Haydon spoke of a Boy of 14 years of age of the name of *Lennel*, Son to a Carver & Gilder, who they said attends the Academy, & has shewn them scenes of Courts & Alleys,—also a stump of a tree all painted with extraordinary fidelity,—upon a small scale.†

Opie's Ingratitude

November 10.—*Hoppner* spoke of Opie's ingratitude to Him. While He was striving to obtain the Professorship of Painting He was continually at Hoppner's, but having obtained it He came no more.

The Middlesex Election commenced to-day when the show of hands was in favor of Sir F. Burdet, & Mr. Mellish, on which Mr. Byng‡ demanded a Poll.—S. Lysons was warm in his expressions against Burdet saying He was a Jacobine & wd. be willing to ruin His country.—[Mellish and Byng were elected.]

Sheridan Neglected

November 11.—He [Lawrence] expressed a great desire for Sheridan to be returned for Westminster, & said He had been much neglected by the Fox party, who had never forgiven Him for not *seceding from the House of Commons* when they did; or for what He did at the time of the Navy Mutiny to support the Administration by His speeches in the House of Commons.

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* John Graham (1754-1817) was a painter of considerable ability, and while master of the Trustees Academy, in Edinburgh, his native city, he had as pupils Sir David Wilkie, Sir John Watson Gordon, and Sir William Allan. Graham lived and worked in London, after having served his apprenticeship as a coach-painter, up to 1798. While in the south he met many eminent artists. Gainsborough praised the Donkeys in his picture of the "Disobedient Prophet," Mulready sat for the young Solomon in one of his Biblical subjects, and two of Graham's historical paintings were engraved for Boydell's Shakespeare.

† John Linnell (1792-1882), landscape painter, whose pictures had a great vogue at one time, was a staunch friend of William Blake until the latter's death, and Linnell's possessions included Blake's plates and replicas of the drawings for the "Book of Job," the drawings for "Paradise Regained," and those for the Dante series and the plates from them, all the result of commissions from Linnell.

In the Linnell sale in 1918 the 102 drawings for the "Divina Commedia" fetched 7,300 guineas. The twelve for "Paradise Regained" £2,100, both lots were purchased by Mr. Frank Rinder on behalf of the Felton Bequest for the National Gallery, Melbourne. The 21 drawings for the "Book of Job" made 3,800 guineas.

Linnell's daughter married Samuel Palmer, the eminent water-colour painter, and their son, Mr. A. H. Palmer, now seventy-two years of age, is engaged on a life of his grandfather, and has at his service a vast number of wholly unpublished documents relating to Linnell's career.

‡ See Index, Vol. II.

Sir Francis Baring spoke of Lord Castlereagh and sd. He had done business with Him & found Him a man with a very Clear Head, who at once saw into the *marrow of a subject.* That He is a man of a cool & equal temper & is not ruffled by speeches in the House of Commons or by any attacks upon Him, & does not aim at more than plain speaking. —Sir Francis has much anecdote & is very communicative & Lawrence regretted that He had not at the time *made minutes* of many things which He said.

Soane Cleaned the Shoes

November 12.—Dance shewed me a letter recd. by Him from Soane dated Oct. 4th. expressing the greatest regard for Him.—The letter was forwarded to Dance at Sir G. Beaumonts to whom *He shewed* it. Dance did not reply to it, & sd. He should not after what He had experienced from Soane ever again have any communication to Him.—After tea He made Charles Dance write a Copy of it, which He gave me.—Sir N. Dance sd. He well remembered Soane being a Servant in Dance's House when a youth & had himself been with Him often in the Kitchen while He was cleaning the Shoes &c.*

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* George Dance and Sir John Soane were architects and Royal Academicians. Sir Nathaniel Dance, George's nephew, was a commander in the service of the East India Company. See Vol. II., page 272 and *note.*

Mr. Arthur T. Bolton, Curator of the Sir John Soane Museum, writes: I trust that you will allow me, in the interests of historical students, to correct the very false impression that to-day's extract from Farington's Diary may give, as to the real relations of Dance and Soane. Tea-table gossip is notoriously unreliable, and artists are the first to laugh in cooler moments over the things they say about each other under the stress of party feelings.

The relations between Soane and Dance, although on opposite sides in R.A. politics, remained intimate to the latter's death in 1825. I have read letters [of what date ?] from Dance to Soane, expressing his thanks in the warmest possible terms. The last acquisition of Sir John Soane was the Dance Cabinet. Sir N. Dance wrote to invite Soane to purchase it, frankly for the benefit of his family, and the veteran architect in his 83rd year travelled down to the country for that purpose. As to that version of the entry of Soane into Dance's office I regard it as a legend. I know of no evidence to that effect, but think that it was effected through James Peacock, Dance's senior assistant, who remained an intimate old friend of Soane's.

[Mr. Bolton is, of course, entitled to his opinion as to what is legendary, but fact is an obstinate opponent. Our correspondent says, for example, that Sir Nathaniel Dance—does he mean Sir Nathaniel Dance-Holland or his nephew ?—" wrote to invite Soane to purchase it [The Dance cabinet] . . . and the veteran architect [Soane, we assume] in his 83rd year travelled down to the country for that purpose."

Now Soane was not 83 until 1836, whereas both Sir Nathaniels were dead long before that date. The one died in 1811, the other in 1827, so that neither could have written to Soane in 1836.

F. M. O'Donohue says in the Dictionary of National Biography that Soane " was engaged as an errand boy by George Dance, the younger." It is surely to Soane's credit that he rose from being an " errand boy and cleaner of boots " to be a Royal Academician and a knight.—Ed.]

CHAPTER XIII

1806

Artists and Critics

November 12.—Sir George Beaumont & Mr. [Uvedale] Price called on Dance yesterday & requested Him to go with them to-day to call on Robert Smirke to see His design for the front of Lord Lowther's intended House at Lowther. This was in consequence of Price having told Sir George that He had seen a drawing of Robert Smirke's, a design for that House, which He did not approve, & Sir George being hastily affected by what Price sd. considered Himself to be called upon, having united with Dance in recommending Robt. Smirke to Lord Lowther, to prevent a design made in a bad taste from being executed while it was possible to do it.

They accordingly went, and on Robert Smirke shewing them the drawing of the House, as it is intended to be executed, Price declared it to be quite another thing & professed to approve it much.—Robt. Smirke also showed them several drawings of Greek antiquities to which He had put backgrounds in water colours. Dance sd. He was much disgusted on observing Sir George took no notice of the buildings, the objects which the drawings were made to represent, but employed all His attention to the tinting of the Skies & backgrounds, those secondary matters, which He criticised & recommended improvements of the effects in a way, that shewed Dance how much He was filled with an opinion of his own taste & judgment in such matters, a weakness which Dance was sorry to see.

I told Dance that in this & such like ways Artists are seriously affected by these Critics, who run abt. & in many respects do much harm to the Professors.—Dance said He thought Price had no taste or true feeling for works of art, that it was all assumed.—

John Linnell

November 14.—Sir George Beaumont called today. He came to town with an intention of remaining a month, but finds He cannot apply to anything & therefore proposes to go to His Mother at Dunmow. —Yesterday He took Hearne to Wilkie's to see the "Blind Fidler," which Hearne commended in the highest degree.—But Sir George says there is not everywhere a disposition to approve what Wilkie may do.—Sir George thinks the *health* of Wilkie not strong. He had a stomach complaint at Lord Mulgrave's.—He has advised Wilkie to walk every day.—He spoke of *Haydon* as being a very promising young artist,—and also of the Boy [Linnell], whose paintings of Alley's &c. now at Wilkies are admirable, & the Skies blended with the other colours like Canaletto.—

Lawrence and the Princess

November 15.—Lawrence called to enquire abt. Academy matters. He is still apprehensive that a Maneouvre may be attempted to get Hoppner into the Presidency.—He told me that Mr. Perceval, the late Attorney General,* came to Him on Wednesday the 24th. of Septr. with two Magistrates & He deposed on oath to the truth of the Declaration He had made respecting His attendance upon & intercourse with the Princess of Wales.—Mr. Perceval told Him that after having given a deposition respecting His intercourse with the Princess Captn. Manby had added a general declaration of His innocence of any improper conduct with respect to Her Royal Highness & He wished Lawrence to do the same.—Lawrence sd. that He thought that would be fully done by His stating that *once only* He was left alone with the Princess and that nothing took place but what all persons might properly have been witnesses to.—The Conclusion of this business has been as follows.—When all the examinations of persons had been gone through to oppose the evidence against the Princess given before the Commissioners, Lord Eldon, Mr. Perceval & I understood Mr. Plumer† drew up an answer for the Princess which was carried to the King by Lord Eldon, who to His great surprise after what Had before passed between the King & Him on that subject refused to receive it, and said He could not receive anything but what came to Him through the hands of *the Commissioners*.—Such is the timid state of His Majesty's mind, and so fearful is He of *incurring* difficulties !—

West Anti-English

November 16.—[Smirke] mentioned that Hayes who has been much with West had spoken to Him of the excessive indiscretion of West, situated as He is with the King, in speaking in the manner He does of the state of Europe & His partiality to Buonaparte. He talks in such a way as cannot be agreeable to the feelings of Englishmen & He ought to be advised to the contrary. Smirke told Hayes that I was the most

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* Spencer Perceval (1762-1812), fourth son of the Earl of Egmont, was Attorney-General under Addington (Lord Sidmouth) and in Pitt's last Ministry and Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Portland Government. Premier in 1809, he carried the Regency Bill in 1811, and was shot the following year in the lobby of the House of Commons by Bellingham, a Liverpool broker.

† Afterwards Sir Thomas Plumer, Master of the Rolls. See Vol. III., page 218.

Queen Caroline as Princess of Wales
From the Painting in the Victoria and Albert Museum

[*To face p.* 48

proper person to speak to Him.—I told Smirke that West certainly has not an *English mind*, & is kept to this country only by the Income He receives from the King, & by His Sons having married here,—in this He fully agreed.—

[In the illustration of the Politics of Europe, in Bell's Weekly Messenger this day it was predicted " That if Russia come into Contact with France, —that is to say, unless Russia make an immediate peace,—Petersburgh will, in all probability, be in the hands of the French, and one of the House of Buonaparte become the Emperor of the North."—From small note-book.]

November 18.—Called on Smirke & sat with Him near three Hours during which time He was employed in toning two pictures with *Asphaltum* mixed with *Japanners Gold Size* to make it dry & a little *Wax* to *fix it*, and Prussian Blue.

C. Offley's I dined at.—Forrester* who is a native of *Perth* said that *Paul* the candidate for Westminsters Father is now a *Taylor* at Perth.—Paul is now about 36 or 38 years old. His conduct, while He was a youth, was irregular, and He left Perth to go to India, having but an indifferent character at that time. About 6 years ago He returned from India & on His going to Perth was but indifferently recd. by respectable people, but He was generous to His Father on whom He also settled an Annuity, and established His Brothers in business, *and for such acts* was respected & acknowledged.—He returned to India after that period & the last time came back supposed to be worth £80,000.—

Sheridan Wins

Lawrence came to tea.—Sheridan [three days ago] carried His election for Westminster with which they were much pleased.

[The Election for Westminster terminated—the 15th day.

For [Admiral] Sir Saml. Hood	5478
Mr. Sheridan	4758
Mr. Paul	4481

Majority for Mr. Sheridan 277.

—From small note-book.]

R.A.'s Perplexed

November 19.—[Thomson, R.A.], sd. He is fully sensible of the dislike to Hoppner & that it has arisen from his own conduct, which has been intemperate & offensive to most of the Members. Lawrence, on the contrary, has not been complained of for calumniating the members or anything directly offensive, but His cold, distant, reserved manner has disgusted many. On the whole He should rather choose to vote for Hoppner however convinced of His feelings.—He admitted that as the Academy is circumstanced it wd. be best to vote for West, though He did not like Him. I asked Him what it wd. be best to do in case West should decline the offer made to Him. He did not know. I gave it as my opinion that it wd. be most prudent then to vote for *Dance.* He sd. it had not occurred to Him but certainly *as a man* He shd. much prefer Dance to West, and however little disposed He might be to vote for an Architect as an example had already been set perhaps it might be best circumstanced as the Academy is.—

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* Edward Forrester or Forster, partner in the Offley firm of wine merchants. See Vol. III., page 10.

He said that while He was at Sir John Leicester's, in Cheshire, the Duke of Gloucester was there & talking of a new President for the Royal Academy He sd. He had in His mind those members who were most likely to be elected. Sir John knowing who He meant said He differed from Him in opinion and a wager of *five* guineas was laid each to name His men.—The Duke named *Bourgeois,—Beechey,*—& *Loutherburgh.*—Sir John named *Hoppner* & *Lawrence.*—The Duke indeed sd. that Bourgeois & Beechey had told Him that unless it was at the Kings request they would not accept the Office.—Thomson laughed at their self importance.

Hoppner Childish

He acknowledged fully that no dependence can be placed on Hoppner. He may be led like a Child while you are with Him, but the next day may be outrageously of an opposite opinion.—He said Hoppner had at all times expressed great respect for me notwithstanding He had acted towards me with so much hostility.—He said that he had been told that Wyatt's party look for the *reelection of West ;* Cosway has expressed it, as being our intention. I sd. that must have arisen from the probability—the necessity for it,—and not from any real information of our intention as it could not have been communicated to Him.

CHAPTER XIV

1806

The Hardwickes

November 19.—Lysons came to tea.—He and His Brother were last week at Lord Hardwicks in Cambridgeshire and were much pleased with the family. The daugrs. 3 in number are from 17 to 20 years of age, and are very easy & pleasant in their manners & not at all affected by their late situation in Ireland while their Father kept a Court being Lord Lieutenant.—Lord Royston, the eldest son is now at Petersburgh.

Lysons mentioned that it is now ascertained that the infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Richd. Price is *totally blind.** Mrs. Price attributes it to her having often seen at Church, *during her pregnancy*, a woman who in a remarkable manner perpetually rolled her eyes about.—Mrs. Price in consequence made an observation before she was delivered "whether she might be affected by it."—

The Duke as Visitor

After Lysons was gone we talked abt. the Academy & I communicated to Him what had passed with West & that His answer had not yet been given.—I told Him of the Duke of Gloucester having named Bourgeois for President.—He said the Duke had been on a visit at Lord Crewe's in Cheshire & had made them very weary of Him by His fastidious pride and the trouble He gave.—At table the Bottle is never *passed by Him* so that others wait till it has been returned *from Him.* The Prince of Wales, & His Brothers knowing His disposition, oppose it, & endeavour to get the better of his fastidious habits.—At Crewe Hall, He did not relieve the family from the trouble of having *Suppers*, but a Hot Supper like a dinner was each night to be provided.—Miss Crewe and Her young female friends would sometimes retire from the general apartment to another sitting room & there set down familiarly to work. The Duke wd. come into the room & they according to *Etiquette* wd. *stand up*, from which He would not relieve them, but after saying a word or two to them, would continue for a quarter of an Hour keeping them in that situation.

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* Richard Price, of The Lawn, South Lambeth, was fourth son of Sir Charles Price, and married on October 4, 1805, Elizabeth Nigel, daughter of Henry Heyman, Consul-General for the Hans Towns.

The present baronet (the sixth) is Sir Charles Rugge-Price.

Europe is Lost

[**November 23.**—In Bell's Weekly Messenger this day it is stated, "That Europe is lost.—Russia can only be saved by an immediate Peace, and England, as having no farther object in War, must from every motive of prudence be a party in the same general peace."—From small note-book.]

Falling Nations

November 27.—J. Offley's I dined at. Forrester brought us from the City an acct. of two of the Hamburgh Mails now due, having arrived, —That the Duke of Brunswick is dead of his wounds,—& that the City of Lubeck had been taken by storm.—C. Offley's reflections were, that the storm gathering around we must expect it [to] break upon us, and that seeing the fall of other nations, the people of this country may possibly become reconciled to whatever may happen to them.—

[The following passage in a Proclamation addressed to His Soldiers was issued Oct. 26th. 1806 and signed *Napoleon*, from our Imperial Camp at *Potsdam:* "My whole people have risen, indignant at the unworthy capitulation which the Prussian Ministers, in their delirium, proposed to us. Our roads & frontier towns are full of conscripts, who burn to march in our footsteps. We will no longer [be] the sport of a treacherous peace, *and we will not lay down our Arms until we have obliged the English, those eternal enemies of our nation, to renounce the scheme of disturbing the Continent, and the tyranny of the Seas.*"—From small note-book.]

November 29.—C. & Mrs. C. Offley called to invite me to dinner.—He brought an acct. of Hamburgh being taken possession of by Genl. Mortier for Napoleon.

A Crust in Her Hand

November 30.—J. Offley's I went to dinner.—Mrs. Thomson told us of Dr. Walsby a prebend of Canterbury having had 18 or £20,000 left Him abt. a year & Half ago by an old woman of the name of B———, a remarkable character for penuriousness. She was accustomed to attend the Cathedral Service, & one day went up to Dr. Walsby & told Him she wd. leave Him £100 in Her Will. From this time He kept up a communication with Her & for some years recd. Her at His table every Sunday at dinner, though she was so dirty as to be disgusting to the Servants.—When the Doctor was informed of her Death it is said He went to Her House & shut Himself in it.—She was found dead with a Crust in Her hand. Her penury was excessive & her character very bad having it is said, defrauded a relation of £1500.—She left the Doctor nearly Her Sole Heir. His view in His conduct to Her was evident & a very unfavourable opinion of Him has been since entertained, which Mrs. T. thinks has affected His spirits & His looks.—He gave nothing to Her relations.—

CHAPTER XV

1806

Lawyer or Attorney

December 1.—Lysons called.—He told me the Revd. Mr. Dibdin* who solicits to be Secretary to the Antiquary Society, is nephew to Dibdin the Musical Composer.—He was a Senator of St. John's College, Oxford, & was afterwards sometime at Worcester, where He issued notices that He wd. act as a Lawyer or Attorney at certain prices, for whoever might be disposed to employ Him. He was afterwards sometime at Gloucester where He had the management of a Sugar Baker concern. —Willis [F.S.A.] of Kensington, is Dibdin's great friend in endeavouring to procure the Secretaryship. He has known Him abt. 3 years.

Lysons very much reprobated the manner in which the outside of the new Gothic Buildings near Westminster Abbey are completed. It is not with *stone* but with a *Composition*, not much cheaper than stone. It is said Wyatt has a *concern in the Patent* & therefore urges the use of it.—

Sheridan's Talents

Lawrence I called on,—& saw His picture of Sir Francis Baring &c. We talked of the situation of public affairs.—I observed that there is no one to whom we can look up with much feeling of confidence as posessing superior wisdom and abilities.—In reckoning up the different political men He mentioned *Sheridan* as having the best talents. I agreed with Him that if the talents He has displayed in preserving considerable importance through a career of profligacy which wd. have overset any other man, had been prudently applied to politics He must have been at the head of affairs.—He thought highly of Lord Castlereagh & sd. Canning is much to be reckoned upon, and is allowed to have great integrity.—

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* Thomas Frognal Dibdin, D.D. (1776-1847), nephew of Charles Dibdin, the song-writer, was author of the popular "Bibliographical Decameron." He was unsuccessful in his application for the secretaryship of the Antiquarian Society.

West and the Presidency

December 2.—Mr. West called to speak finally respecting His again accepting the Chair of the Royal Academy.—He said He had not heard anything from Windsor of the state of the King's mind with regard to the Academy & Wyatt. For a little time past the King has appeared to be rather hurried in his manner, dresses Himself 3 or 4 times a day, & is on the whole in such a state as those abt. Him when they observe it do not like to address him upon any subject but what is absolutely necessary, but wait till He is more calm.—That the Queen & Princess Elizabeth are very much disatisfied with Wyatt is certain, & West believes the Queen wd. be glad to hear of His [West] being again in the Academy Chair.—He then went into the business of His series of pictures intended for the Chapel at Windsor, & sd. that His taking the Chair, ought to be followed by an Order to Him to complete that work. But He added, Wyatt had converted that part of the Castle intended for the Chapel into *Cloisters*.—He sd. He considered the pictures in their present state as only prepared for finishing and said, that if they were put up it would require two years to enable Him to complete them to their proper effect. He added, "That time was now to Him becoming precious for in *Three* years (two years He shd. have sd.) He should be 70 years old."

He then sd. that what He had experienced in the Academy & the abhorrence in which He held many of the members of it, rendered it hateful to Him, and that there was one on the spot (Richards) who had been a chief cause of all the troubles & who was *a spy upon it*, which increased His dislike to the place; that His tranquil plan of life wd. be broken in upon by His again taking the Office upon Him, & that He could not think of holding it more that 12 months, but that as it wd. afford the members an opportunity to make a proper representation of what had been experienced since Wyatt was in the Chair, & restore order, He wd. accept it.—I replied to Him that it appeared to be that He might with propriety decline the Chair after the expiration of 12 months, if He shd. then be so inclined, as at His period of life it was reasonable that He should consult His own comfort & convenience.—I was now authorised to communicate His consent to accept the Chair & that I shd. give Him information of what might pass upon it.—

The Prince's Health

December 4.—Boydell spoke of the great interruption to Commerce which wd. be experienced by the taking of Hamburgh. It is also sd. in the City that [the] administration have sounded leading men in the City to know, whether a £20 *per cent. Income Tax wd. go down.*—A report prevailed He sd. that the Prince of Wales is dead.—It is certain added He that He cannot live, at least so says an Eminent Medical Man. That He can never recover from the state He is in.—He has now the *strongest tea* made for Him, which stands till it is Cold & It is then *iced* before He drinks it to allay an internal heat.—

He told me that a person who was Secretary to Lord Sidmouth while He was Speaker of the House of Commons had informed Him, that sometime since a long list of persons proposed to be made *Baronets* was laid before His Majesty, among whom the *Foxites* had put down Alderman Combe,—Bate Dudley,—Perry, Proprietor of the Morning Chronicle,—& Dennis O'Brien. The King sd. He would consider abt. Combe & rejected the others perempterely.*

Cheapness before Art

Woodthorpe, the City Town Clerk, is indignant at the letter written to Him by Rossi, & reported it to be of a most scurrilous kind, Burch, the Common Council Man, also very much disapproved it. Boydell had not seen it.—It will be read to the Committee of Common Council but not to the general Body. In deciding on the Models offered for Mr. Pitts monuments, cheapness was the first consideration. Bubb who has obtained it canvassed the Members of the Common Council and gave *Cards* on the back of which He put the mark which He had put on His model that it might be known.—

Paid Large Wagers

Boydell sd. that Harvey Combe had been guilty of what might be called a swindling transaction in respect to obtaining a majority at His Election. He had laid large wagers that He wd. be at the *head of the Poll*, and to secure it privately canvassed & brought up Votes after He had with the other candidates disclaimed it, and while they in consequence were inactive.—

He desired me to ask West for the use of 5 of His drawings by Claude to make up with those belonging to Lord Spencer a set. He spoke with great indignation of a proposal made to Him by *Schiavonetti* the *Engraver*, for engraving a Plate from Devis's picture of the *Death of Lord Nelson.*—Schiavonetti proposed to engrave it in *three years*, to have £500 *down* upon receiving the *Picture* & *Plate ;* £500 more when it should be half finished ; & £500 more when it should be completed. He also stated that having but indifferent Health, He should be allowed to take the *picture & Plate with Him to France*, & there to execute it.—This unreasonable & unsafe proposal Boydell rejected, and has since entered into an agreement with Bromley, the Engraver, who is to undertake it, & to finish it in two years for £800.—Woolet had only £250 or £300 for engraving the Death of General Wolfe, & this plate is to be the same size.

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* Harvey Christian Combe, brewer, Alderman of Aldgate Ward in 1790, and Lord Mayor in 1799. The Combe Delafield Brewery, largely extended, still exists in Castle Street, Long Acre. He died at Margate on August 13, 1832. Bate-Dudley, first editor of the *Morning Post* and founder of the *Morning Herald*, was created a Baronet in 1813. Dennis O'Bryen (1755-1832), dramatist and political pamphleteer. Fox appointed him, in 1806, to the Patent Office of Marshal of the Admiralty at the Cape of Good Hope, at a salary, it was said, of £4,000 a year.

CHAPTER XVI

1806

Canova and Flaxman

December 5.—[Flaxman, R.A.] said He had been informed that an offer had been made to Canova the Italian Sculptor, to execute a statue of Mr. Pitt for Cambridge, but that Canova had refused.—He said Lord Elgin had told Him (Flaxman) that on His way from Greece, being at Rome, He shewed several articles of Greek Sculpture to *Canova* & proposed to Him to restore such parts as were wanting. *Canova* advised His Lordship to let them remain as they were, but added if you wish to have them restored there is one in England (Flaxman) who can do it as well as I should be able to perform such a task.

Pitt always had *the Word*

Dr. Hayes sd. that He had learnt among His Political friends that Mr. Fox always spoke highly of Mr. Pitt's powers. Jekyll, the Council saying one day before Mr. Fox, that He had well considered a certain point of Law & had prepared Himself to speak upon it, & wished Mr. Pitt wd. afford Him an opportunity to meet Him upon it. Fox, in answer recommended to Jekyll first to try His powers against *Pepper Arden.**

At another time Fox hearing some of the Company in which He happened to be extolling His great *Command of words*, observed to them that certainly He had *a word* but Mr. Pitt always had *the word*.—It having been commonly observed that men eminent at the *Bar* as *Pleaders* do not make much figure in the House of Commons, it has been noticed that there is a manifest difference in this respect between the Pleaders in the *Kings Bench* & those in *Chancery*, the latter have frequently been distinguished in the House of Commons, the former scarcely ever.—The mind is narrowed by the habit of pleading upon the principle they do in the Kings Bench, while in Chancery the principle is more liberal & extended.

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* Pepper Arden (1745-1804) was Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and entered the House of Lords as Baron Alvanley, Cheshire. He was a great orator and ready wit, which made him a master in debate. He owed much to Pitt, but more to his learning and sound judgment. His two sons succeeded him as Barons: William as second, Richard Pepper as third, at whose death the Peerage became extinct.

It was observed of Mr. Pitt that He never uttered a sentence *ungrammatically*. Porson, the Greek Professor, said that every sentence uttered by Mr. Pitt was so regular & correct as to appear as if formed in His mind before it was expressed,—on the contrary Mr. Fox often plunged into the middle of a sentence & found His way through it as well as He could.

December 6.—[Mr. Thornton, the late Minister at Hamburgh arrived & brought intelligence that all the British Merchants at Hamburgh had been declared by Buonaparte prisoners of War.—That British property of every description is to be confiscated.—*England is declared to be in a state of Blockade.*

December 7.—The proposal suggested of attacking foreign Property in the English Funds *strongly protested against in Bells Weekly Messenger*, —contending that with our *Integrity* we should lose our *Liberty;* our character wd. be gone, our feelings debased. Honesty the best Policy. —From small note-book.]

Farington and Hoppner

December 8.—I had a good deal of conversation with Owen & went over many particulars of Hoppner's conduct to me, & told Him that though I had & should receive Hoppner frankly & civilly, I certainly should not while His mind continued to be what it has long been, go to His House & promote intercourse with Him,—& that my communications with respect to Mr. West had been made through Thomson.—He said that Hoppner could not be depended upon.—West out of the question (who was the most proper man to be President), Hoppner & Lawrence were the persons most proper for the situation.—I spoke to Him of the unfounded Jealousy of Hoppner, of my having a great desire to make Lawrence, President, & declared to Him that I had never held conversation with Lawrence upon such a subject.

West Elected

December 10.—A general meeting of the Royal Academicians was held. Mr. West was elected *President*.

First Ballot.		Second Ballot.	
West	16	West	17
Loutherburgh	4	Loutherburgh	4
Hoppner	1		
Beechey	1		
	22		21

I told Lawrence I had now fully experienced that Fuseli was incapable of real attachment or gratitude & shd. act towards Him accordingly.—We conversed abt. Him & His *manners*, which have been frequently such as to make His friends afraid to introduce Him into Company.—Wm. Locke took Him from the Annual Academy dinner to the Opera & introduced Him into Lady Templetowns Box, where He behaved so ill, & talked so improperly, that the next day the Ladies were all exclaiming against Him.—

December 11.—Baker called.—Had been sent to by Mrs. Edwards, & had been with Her, and given Her £5,—sd. He wd. if Sir Wm. Blizzard wd. bear one half of the expence of the Funeral, pay the other Half: did not like [to think] that Poor Edwards* shd. be buried by Charity even from the Academy.—I shewed Him that we must look to Mrs. Edwards, His Sister, & do what shd. be best for Her & might obtain from the Academy more than wd. be required for the funeral to enable Her to go on, & that a pension might be secured for Her. He agreed to this as being prudent, & went to an Undertaker, Mr. Edmonds, & with Him came back to me. It was then agreed that Edmonds shd. make an estimate of the expence & send it to me & Baker shd. call on me in the even'g.—

Betty I sent to Mrs. Edwards, the acct. she brought was that abt. five weeks ago Her Brother was suddenly struck with a pain between His Shoulders which He believed to be *Rhuematick*.—For a time He suffered a good deal of pain from it but it gradually subsided, but He had a fixed uneasiness on his *Breast* & a shortness of Breath, such as He had never been accustomed to feel, unless when *He had walked fast in Cold weather*.—Yesterday He was up, & walked abt. His room, and had dinner, but did not eat well, which caused His Sister to say as He had made a bad dinner He shd. have his tea early.—His Bed was in the Front Parlour. Milbourne Junr. a young man, was sitting with Him in the other Parlour in conversation when abt. ¼ past 4 oClock in the afternoon He suddenly complained & desired Milbourne to assist Him to the other room, who being alarmed called out & let Him slide to the ground; & an old woman who was assisting Mrs. Edwards in washing being in the Back Parlour, came to them—they placed Him on the bed where He died immediately.—His sister said He had of late *grown fat* so as to be noticed for it, & His friends had remarked how well He looked.—

Yesterday morning I recd. a note from Him with some proof Sheets of His Lives of the Painters, He complained of shortness of breath but hoped it wd. go off as He recovered strength.

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* Edward Edwards, A.R.A., author of "Anecdotes of Painters." See Index, Vols. I. and III.

CHAPTER XVII

1806

West and Wyatt

December 11.—West was very well pleased with all that had been done.—He did not know how the *King* wd. take it, but sd. should His Majesty strike His pen through His name He shd. not be uneasy abt. it but leave it to the consideration of the people.—He wished Dance to go up with the papers of Election, as the King had a high opinion of Dance and after what He had experienced from Wyatt there was no knowing what effect it might have on His Majestys mind. He sd. that Wyatt owed His situation with the King, and the place of *Surveyor General of the works*, to the Queen & Princess Elizabeth, which was to make Him a compensation for the trouble & loss of time which He had suffered in attendance upon the Queen & the Princess, building Frogmore &c. &c., for which it is believed He never recd. any pecuniary recompence.—Indeed Wyatt told a person with whom West is acquainted that His expenses & great loss of time, in attending upon the Royal Family had been the ruin of Him.

Holt, a Political Writer

West expressed a desire that *I* & Dance with Smirke wd. draw up some statement of what had passed at the Academy & the state of the Society. I told Him that might be best done by telling the facts simply to a person with whom He is acquainted & had a high opinion of viz: [Holt]* the Political Writer in Bell's Weekly Messenger.—He immediately gave me the highest commendation of him; said He is a very extraordinary man; that He was born in Norfolk & is the Son of a Clergyman who has a living somewhere, He believes, near *Holkham;* that He is not more than 25 or 26 years of age; was educated at Westminster School & was in the same Class with Lord Henry Petty. That He is much patronised by Mr. Windham, & ere long will probably be in Parliament.—I said the Political writing in Bell's Messenger had often been almost Prophetical. He replied that He has excellent information, and is the Author of a Pamphlet which now makes a great noise "*The State of the Negotiation of Lord Lauderdale*," but it is not known that He wrote it.—He said that Mr. Holt speaks of Mr. Windham with great admiration saying "*He has a most elegant mind*," but of *His Judgment* He smiles when He speaks.—

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* See Index, Vol. III.

Holt thinks the Emperor of Russia acted a very bad part in His negotiation with France. D'Oubril* was certainly sent to Paris with unlimited powers, but the administration of Russia at that time was what is called the "*Peace administration*."—During the negotiation another set of persons came into power and formed what was from their dispositions called "*The War Administration*." These induced the Emperor to disavow D'oubril's Treaty,—which being known encouraged Prussia to present Herself; but Buonaparte did not allow time for a conjunction of their forces but destroyed by His quickness the power of Prussia singly,—the Negotiation of Lord Lauderdale went on fairly & openly, till towards the conclusion when there was something not quite consistent.—

West then spoke of the able manner in which Holt had written Criticisms on the last Exhibition. He said that He first knew Holt through His son Ralph, and that Holt had said to Him, that It was His desire to obtain some knowledge of the Polite Arts of which He declared Himself to be quite ignorant. West recommended to Him to read the discourses of Sir Joshua Reynolds, & Vasari's lives of the Painters, &c. which He did & in Six months.

Bonaparte's Blockade

December 12.—Baker called. We talked of Buonapartes Blockade of the British Islands. Baker† sd. that finding the British power the only obstacle to His universal sway & that which prevents the fully establishing His usurpations, He has become desperate & will subject the Continent to any difficulties in order to distress us.—Baker added that it will be to our interest never to make peace with Buonaparte while He holds His present position.—He remarked on *Fox* and the great harm He had done His Country while in opposition.

Prince and Lord Grenville

December 15.—This day I sat to Edridge who began a drawing of me for His Collection of Portraits of friends.—He told me Charles Long is held in such respect by His friends that He had an offer of a Seat in Parliament from three different friends. He accepted that of *Lord Lowther* & is returned for *Haslemere*.—Upon the formation of a Ministry after the death of Mr. Pitt, an offer was made to Mr. Long by *Lord Grenville* of such a place as might suit & be agreeable to Him.—Mr. Long told this to Edridge. He declined the offer, as He could not, with propriety, quit the friends of Mr. Pitt viz: Lord Castlereagh,—Canning &c.—

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* See Index, Vol. III.

† George Baker, print collector and lace merchant. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

There is certainly a difference subsisting between the Prince of Wales & Lord Grenville, sd. to be owing to Election arrangements. The Prince is not popular. In some companies a toast is given, " The Prince of Wales *for ever*."—

C. Offley's I dined at.—Wm. Burroughs told me there are now abt. 260 Boys at Harrow School. The young Duke of Dorset is there. He is abt. 13 years old, is a good tempered Boy & well liked. He is called by the Boys, *Dorset* only*. Mr. Burroughs informed me that *Hughes*† is made a *Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's*, in consequence of which He gives up all His other preferment.—

A Younger Brother

December 16.—Ant: Carlisle called to speak to me respecting His Brother [Nicholas] offering Himself for the Office of Secretary to the Antiquary Society. He sd. His Brother is younger than Himself & was born of a different mother, a second wife, sister to Captain Scottowe, formerly in the East India Company's service; that He inherited a fortune of abt. £16,000, which unfortunately [he had] been induced to engage in *Shipping speculations* for the Slave trade, but the connexions He formed proved to be bad, & eventually He lost the whole of His property.—He has since been engaged with Mr. R [——], Secretary to the Speaker of the House of Commons, in estimating the population of Great Britain; which has led Him on to Topographical studies & He has been assiduously employed in forming a Topographical Dictionary. He had a good school education, & is a very good Scholar. He had, said Carlisle, a great advantage over me in that respect. I was taken from School at the age of 14, but He remained there till He was near 19.—He is unmarried, continued He, & having been kind to me when He had property & I had not, He now lives with me.—I told Him that my vote had not been engaged & I desired to vote with those of my friends who are the best judges of what the Society requires; that Lysons appeared to be inclined to His Brother, & that must have a great effect in His favor. That I understood His Brother's name is now hung to be balloted for to be a member & *wd.* be elected towards the end of January.—Carlisle came in a handsome Chariot.

[In the Herald this day it was stated, that John Carr, Author of "The Stranger in Ireland," on the 10th inst. recd. the Honor of Knighthood at Dublin Castle from the Duke of Bedford, Lord Lieutenant.—From small note-book.]

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* Lord Byron, who was one of his school-fellows at Harrow, commemorated him n a set of verses, beginning, " Dorset, whose early steps with mine have strayed."

† Rev. Dr. Thomas Hughes. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

CHAPTER XVIII

1806

A Great Singer

December 17.—Madame Catalani* the celebrated Opera Singer made Her first appearance on the English Stage on Saturday last in a new Serious Opera called *La Semiramide*, [by Portogallo] she had before appeared and excited admiration at Madrid, Lisbon, Naples, and Paris.

On December 21 Farington wrote,—I went to the Opera & heard Madame Catalani sing in the Opera of *Semiramide.* She has £2000 for the Season,—and a benefit. She is abt. 24 years of age,—and is married. —Des Hayes, Madame Des Hayes, & Parisot† danced.—The Prince of Wales I saw with Lord and Lady Melbourne in their Box.—Lady ——— Belasis‡ was also in it.

Dr. Moss,§ Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, is expected to be the new Bishop of Oxford. He is a Son to [Charles Moss] the late Bishop

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* Angelica Catalani was born on May 10, 1780, at Sinigaglia, and when about twelve years of age her fine voice attracted the attention of the nuns at the Convent of Santa Lucia at Gubbio, a town famous for its pottery. In 1795 she made her first appearance on the stage at the Fenice, Venice, as Lodoiska in Mayr's opera of that name. Her fame soon spread, and, as Farington records, she made her debut in London on December 15 at a salary of £2,000 for the season, with £100 to cover the expenses of the journey to London, and "one Benefit Night free of expence in the month of March, at which a new opera would be performed." She received enormous sums while in England—for example, 200 guineas for singing "God Save the King" and "Rule, Britannia," and at a single festival, £2,000. Catalani was a great singer. Her voice, we are told, was of "extraordinary purity, force, and compass . . . with a sweet, clear tone." She had faults, due mainly to careless training at the convent. She died of cholera at Paris on June 12, 1849.

† Mlle. Parisot, when dancing at the Opera in 1798, wore a dress which the Hon. Shute Barrington, Bishop of Durham, denounced as indecent. In 1807 she married Mr. Hughes, of Golden Square.

‡ Lady Anne Belasyse, daughter and co-heir of Henry, second and last Earl of Fauconberg, by Charlotte, sister of Peniston, first Viscount Melbourne. She was married on July 19, 1791, to Sir George Wombwell, and died on July 7, 1808. Romney painted her portrait in 1791.

§ Dr. Charles Moss was appointed Bishop of Oxford in 1807. He died in 1811.

Angelica Catalani
From a Print in the British Museum

[*To face p.* 62

of Bath & Wells, & posesses property to the amount of £3000 a year, so that He wants only *Dignity*.

[Daniel] Gardner who painted in Crayons & lived in Bond Street formerly, died July 8th. 1805 of a Liver Complaint. He had been much accustomed to *quack Himself* & did not know his disorder.—He was ill abt. Six months.—He died posessed of 15 or £1600 a year, which His Son, an only Child inherits. He is abt. 29 years old, & is a Barrister. Gardner's disposition was peculiar. He was extremely parsimonious. His great delight was in *arguing* in which He occasionally brought upon Himself severe animadversions, which generally caused Him to be more respectful to His opponents afterwards.—Hearne said He had experienced it.—

E. Edwards, A.R.A.

Poor Edwards's funeral I was called upon to attend at two oClock by Mr. West, Hearne & Edridge. We found at the House several persons. Sir Willm. Blizzard, Cousin to Edwards, & an eminent Surgeon in the City, desired to read a paper, during which time Mrs. Edwards withdrew. It stated the character & merits of Edwards, & then proceeded to state the great comfort and assistance which He had derived from His Sister who had passed Her life in serving Him, and trusting that Her good qualities wd. render Her an object to be assisted by those of Her Brothers profession who had regard for Him.—After He had finished Mr. West spoke His kind sentiments, & I told Him that tomorrow night a Council wd. be held at the Royal Academy for the purpose of taking Her situation into consideration.

Sir Wm. Blizzard, who is an eminent Surgeon, said, that the Body of Poor Edwards had been opened & some water was found in the Chest, which to a stronger constitution might not have caused much difficulty, but He had not [the] power to contend with its effects, at least that is probable.—Sir William did not open Him but proper persons were employed & made that report to Him.—I told Sir William privately that I hoped the Academy wd. give £50 to Mrs. Edwards at present, & put Her on the *Donation list* for £12. a year.

Humphry called in the even'g having dined with Daniell & there [had] been first informed of the Death of Edwards.—He sd. Edwards was as much a character as any man He had ever known, & proceeded to recapitulate several of His acts of Heroism & resolution, so disproportioned to His bodily distortion & weakness, & said it were to be wished that His excentricities & peculiarities could be recorded, they wd. make a History as entertaining as Don Quixotte.—He sd. all things considered He thought it was well that His life had thus terminated, as He had thereby been saved from any exposure to difficulties at an advanced period of life.—

December 18.—Mrs. Edwards I called on & talked with abt. Her late Brother & His affairs in order to be prepared for the Academy Council to-night. She told me he owed as follows, viz :

	L
To Mr. Young, the Landlord of His House	114.
To His Taylor, abt.	15.
Half a Years Taxes.	7.
And sundry small debts, the whole not exceeding.	15.
	151.

To pay this she had nothing but His Household furniture, Books, prints, & pictures.—I told Her I hoped to obtain £50 from the Council, which wd. defray the funeral expences & leave to Her near £30.—That I felt assured she would next Summer be put upon the Donation List for 10 or 12 guineas a year, which wd. be continued to Her. That I had no doubt of the intended publication of Walpole's lives of Painters & Engravers which Her Brother had prepared would produce profit,—She said, His work on Perspective had not been profitable, but that was of a very different nature & less likely to sell.—She told me she was 59 years old, Oct. 17th. last.

She told me her Brother set off for Italy in July 1775 and returned to England abt. the end of Septr. 1776. She sd. she had remarked a decrease of His bodily strength during the last 12 months. He could not walk long, or fast as before, witht. being fatigued. Abt. 3 months ago He said to Her, Sally, I should be sorry to go before you, as you would have difficulties to experience ; but it would also be bad for me were you to go first, for I should much want your assistance.—It is abt. a month since He complained of a pain in one of His arms, which ascended to His shoulder, & afterwards to His back ; He thought it Rheumatism.—He did not appear to be seriously alarmed at any period of his indisposition. On the Monday even'g before He died, He had his bed warmed, but was so much fatigued with walking up two pair of stairs, that His sister, the next day, had his bed brought down & placed in the front parlour. He slept in it that night, & died the next day.—She said she had been much struck with the appearance of His complexion, which had not a uniform gradually decreasing colour, but all appeared to be of a purity almost to white, except a circular spot of red on each cheek.

Picture of Bonaparte

After breakfast I called on Masquerier* & apologised for not attending Mr. Dibdins last Lecture at the British Institute. Masquerier told me that He had profited to the amount of £1000 by His picture of Buonaparte. He had been enabled to purchase the House in which He now resides & after having accomodated Himself with painting rooms & others for Domestick purposes, had let the front of his house for £140 a year.—He shewed me a portrait of Lady Worsley & Her present Husband who after the death of Sir Richd. Worsley,* she married several months ago.—He had lived with Her before, & was a Musician; His name is Hummel.—Sir Richard having died witht. a Will, she came in for half His *personalty*, besides such a proportion of Her own fortune, which was £90,000 as to have an Income of 5 or £6000 a year, which, after the death of Her husband, on whom she has made a settlement, is entirely at her disposal; which consideration is supposed to have caused a restoration of affection & intimacy between Her and Her Sister, Lady Harrington.—She is towards 50 years of age. Her Husband is abt. 30.

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* A life of Masquerier was published by the *Connoisseur* in 1922. See also Index, Vol. II.

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* Sir Richard Worsley, of Appuldercombe, Bart., M.P., F.S.A., F.R.S. (1751-1805), antiquary and traveller, married in 1775, Seymour Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Fleming, Bart., of Brompton Park, Middlesex. In Walpole's Letters (VIII.) are chronicled the story of her liaison with the Earl of Peterborough, who first met her at Sadler's Wells Theatre, and her amours with others. In 1782 Worsley claimed £20,000 against George M. Bissett, of the Hampshire Militia, for crim. con. with his wife, but was awarded only one shilling damages on the ground of his connivance. Lady Worsley by royal Grant changed her name to that of Lady Fleming, and according to the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1805, she was married a month after her husband's death, not to Hummel, but to J. Louis Couchet.

CHAPTER XIX

1806

Wars and Wealth

December 18.—[The following table is from a small note-book :

THE WARS OF GREAT BRITAIN SINCE

No. of Wars.	Who With.	When Began.	In What Reign.	Debt Beginning of Each War.	Average Annual Revenues.	Duration of each War.
				£	£	
1	France	May 7, 1689	William III. ..	664,263	3,000,000	7. 9. 3
2	France & Spain	May 4, 1701	Anne	16,500,000	3,700,000	11.10. 9
3	Spain........	Dec. 16, 1718	George I.	50,000,000	4,000,000	2. 5.28
4	Spain	Oct. 19, 1739	George II.....	50,000,000	6,000,000	8.11.30
5	France	May 18, 1756	George II.-III.	74,000,000	7,000,000	6. 8.21
6	America	April 19, 1775	George III....	136,000,000[*]	11,000,000	8. 4.15
7	France	Feb. 11, 1793	George III....	272,000,000	25,000,000	9. 1.16
8	France	March 9, 1803	George III....	619,000,000	37,000,000	——

In the year 1664 a computation was made of the wealth of this nation by many able writers :—Sir W. Petty,[†] esteemed the most correct, by which it appeared the total value of all property *landed & personal*, consisting of Houses, Lands, gold & Silver Coin, Plate, Shipping, wares, merchandise, Furniture &c. amounted to no more than £250,000,000, and the annual profits of the same to £15,000,000, which among 5,000,000 of people, the then population of England, amounted to £3 each person's clear yearly income, on a plan of equalization.

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[*] In this peace of nine years the Debt *increased* £26,000,000.

[†] Sir William Petty (1623-1687), physician, mechanician, political economist, and Surveyor-General of Ireland.

In the year 1800 the yearly income amounted to 402,000,000 being the *profits* of the landed & personal, at 15 pr cent, arising from 2,700,000,000. —viz: 1,250,000,000, *landed property*, and 1,450,000,000 *personal* of every denomination; which among 15,000,000 of people, the present population of this nation, is abt. £27 to each persons share, on the above plan, which is *nine* times more, at the present time, than 140 years ago. And, in order that each person may have as much income yearly as they enjoyed then, allow this £15,000,000, per year *at that time* to be £45,000,000, because the present population of this nation is 3 times greater now than at that *period*. There will then (when this £45,000,000 is taken from £402,000,000, the present yearly income) remain £357,000,000 as the yearly income and *clear profits over & above* what we then enjoyed.—Could the nation be prevailed on to contribute 12 months of that their *clear profits only*, it wd. be sufficient to discharge the whole of the present National Debt; which as £600,000,000, of Stock £400,000,000 sterling wd. nearly accomplish. This might be done by contributing the profits of *one month* in the year, for 12 *years only*, and this on nothing else but our *clear profits only*, all kinds of labour is entirely out of the question. If any should say we are paying our debts of our Ancestors, by paying the national debt, it may with truth & justice be said so *we ought*, for it is by their labour, since that period, that we have those extra riches which we now enjoy; for before that time they were not in existence to be

HE REVOLUTION OF 1688 TO 1805.

When Ended.	Where Ended and By Whom.	Debt Contracted in Each War.	Total Debt at End of Each War.	Duration of Each Peace.	Debt Paid Off During Each Peace.
		£	£		£
Feb. 10, 1697	Earl Pembroke, at Ryswick.	20,035,737	20,700,000	4. 2.22	4,200,000
Mar. 13, 1713	Earl Strafford, at Utrecht.	35,500,000	52,000,000	5. 9. 3	2,000,000
June 13, 1721	Duke of Somerset, at Madrid.	6,000,000	56,000,000	18. 4. 6	6,000,000
Oct. 18, 1748	Earl Sandwich, at Aix la Chapelle.	28,000,000	78,000,000	7. 7. 0	4,000,000
Feb. 10, 1763	Duke of Bedford, at Fontainbleu.	73,000,000	147,000,000	12. 2. 9	11,000,000
Sept. 3, 1783	Mr. Grenville, at Paris.	110,000,000	246,000,000	9. 5. 8	From the beneficial effects of the Sinking Fund there has been paid off since the year 1783 to Feb. 1805, the sum of £110,000,000
Mar. 27, 1802	Marquess Cornwallis, at Amiens.	347,000,000	619,000,000	0.11.11	
——	——	To Feb. 1805, 96,000,000	715,000,000 110,000,000	——	

£605,000,000 the National Debt, Feb. —, 1805.

enjoyed, but handed down gradually, since the above computation was made in 1664. Were this patriotic act to be accomplished, let us see how we shd. stand.—Deduct *the then total riches*, £250,000,000 from the *present property* of the nation, £2,700,000,000 there will then remain the enormous Balance of 2,450,000,000. Here is a balance of above 6 to 1 in our favour. It would be therefore equally ungrateful in us to refuse to contribute to discharge the debt as for a rich heir to a great estate refusing to pay a tradesmans bill of £10 contracted by his father, who had left him £120 to pay it with.

Our *present taxes* are under £40,000,000 yearly, with all the burthens of the War, and our clear annual income, and profits £402,000,000, which is above 10 times this demand ; therefore, even the whole of our present taxes, National Debt included (if equitably laid) would only be *a tenth* part of our *clear profits ;* and three fourths of this goes to pay the interest for the National Debt. Between the years 1664 and 1700 our annual taxes were abt. £3,000,000 on the average, and our yearly profits only £15,000,000, which is one *fifth* part. Thus our ancestors were paying a *fifth* and we only a *tenth*, with all our National Debt.—From small note-book.]

Sir John Carr

Sir John Carr* was mentioned to me by Westall. He returned from Ireland two or three days ago & dined with Westall yesterday.—He went to Ireland abt. a month ago at the Solicitation of several persons of rank, and was introduced to the Duke of Bedford, & recommended to Him to receive some distinction, on which the Duke *knighted Him*, and used many very obliging expressions.—It is probable He will 'ere long receive more solid advantages. Lady Dowager *Moira* told Him she expected His title wd. be followed by something more *substantial*. His favorable acct. of the Irish nation in His late publication "*The Stranger in Ireland*", has made Him many friends in that Country, viz : The Ponsonby's†—[Henry] Grattan,—Lord Moira &c. &c.—

He told Westall an Anecdote yesterday. When He was in Prussia in 1804 He visited the Palace at Potsdam, where He was shewn a very fine Chrystal valued at £3000, which made part of a Chandelier. On His admiring it, the person who shewed it said to Him very gravely in French, "It will not be two years before this will be in Paris".—A remarkable proof of the known disposition of many in that Country.—

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Ancestors of the Earl of Bessborough.

CHAPTER XX

1806-1807

Lord Warwick and a Picture

December 19.—Battersbee [the banker] called having come to town for His daughter. He told me Lord Warwick does not reside at Warwick Castle & probably never will again. His affairs are in the hands of Trustees. His Son, Lord Brooke, on whom the estates are entailed will not do anything while His Father continues to employ *Vancouver* as His Agent,—His Lordship pressed Battersbee much to lend Him £1000 but He had the prudence to decline doing it.—His Lordship borrowed £1000 of a person with whom Battersbee is acquainted, and such is His inconsiderateness that though He borrowed it for family purposes, being in the greatest need, He that very day gave the whole of it for a picture.

The Marquiss of Hertford* lives magnificently at Ragley, 9 miles from Stratford on Avon. When Battersbee has dined there with only His Lordship & Lady Hertford & the Chaplain, there has been two *full* courses & a desert, and 8 servants waiting. He has made Ragley a very fine place. There is so much wood that it is estimated He might cut down £30,000 worth but He will not touch a tree.—*He is considered near* in what respects money notwithstanding, & frequently pays His Bills by drafts on Ransom & Morland at two months. He is very attentive & obliging & Lady Hertford† particularly so witht. pride.

December 25.—In the even'g J. Offley [wine merchant] mentioned to me His intention of no longer keeping a Carriage & Horses.—He shewed me that the expence attending it amounted to £367 a year; that as He had no House rent to pay, He could, without a carriage, continue to live as well as He now does for £800 a year.—He said, that He might retain the Carriage which wd. cost Him £10 a yr. for taxes, & have horses whenever He might require them. I strongly recommended to Him to adopt this Oeconomical Plan.—

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* The second Marquess. His share in forming what is now known as the Wallace Collection was the "Nelly O'Brien" by Reynolds, and Romney's "Mrs. Robinson (Perdita)."

† His second wife, who was the eldest daughter (and co-heir) of Charles Ingram, ninth Viscount Irvine (see Burke's Extinct Peerage).

The third Marquess was their son. When the latter was, in 1827, Envoy-Extraordinary, carrying the Order of the Garter to Nicholas I. of Russia, the magnificence displayed by him made a sensation even in a Court which outshines all in Europe and partakes of Asiatic splendour. It was, however, the fourth Marquess and his heir, Sir Richard Wallace, who collected the bulk of the treasures at Hertford House.

Women and Art

December 30.—Hoppners preface to His poem in which He spoke freely of Madam Le Brun was mentioned.—Mr. Pitt said He had often wondered that more women had not studied the Arts as it seemed to be a pursuit so well suited to their dispositions—Edridge modestly observed that it had been proved by Michael Angelo & Raphael &c. that it was a study which required the greatest powers.—Mr. Pitt mentioned Mrs. Damer—Edridge said, little cd. be given to Her, & that Angelica who had done much better in a more difficult branch of art, was but weak compared with masculine exertions.*

Mr. Pitt did not then drink more than a pint at & after dinner—drank Coffee & tea—but in even'g there was always a fowl dressed of which He wd. eat a wing—& afterwards drink two or three tumblers of strong port wine & water—There was nothing assumed in His manner, & He conversed easily—& talked a good deal—but there was always something abt. Him that prevented familiar approach.—

1807

January 2.—Smirke called in the even'g, He did not like Edridge's drawing of *me*, saying it had a mean & peevish expression. He thought that by Dance much superior to it.—He shd. not have known that by Edridge.

January 3.—Smirke spoke with much approbation of my picture of "*The Ouse Bridge*," & said "I might leave that as my Monument." —C. Offley said it did not look like a modern picture.

January 8.—Hoppner has established a kind of *Conversazione* every Wednesday even'g at His House. Tea,—Whist,—Sandwiches & Wine.—

Art Patrons

Woodforde† told me He was born at a Village near *Castle Carey* in Wiltshire.—That an Uncle of his, an Attorney, having business with the late Mr. Hoare of *Stourhead*, had carried some drawings which He had made, when between 16 & 17 years old, to Mr. Hoare, who immediately offered Him encouragement; allowed Him to draw from pictures at Stourhead, & then sent Him to London to study at the Royal Academy.—Mr. Hoare died in a few years, but the Father of the present Sir Richard Hoare, who was the head *Partner* of the *Banking House*, and the first Baronet of that name, on succeeding to the fortune of his Cousin, Mr. Hoare of Stourhead, offered to send Woodforde to Italy, and to allow Him £100 a yr. for 3 years. Woodforde was then 23 or 4 years of age. He went to Italy, & in 2 years His Patron died; but His Son, the present Sir Richard Hoare coming to Rome abt. that period, promised to continue the allowance so long as He, Sir Richard, should remain in Italy, which He did till Woodforde had been absent from England abt. 6 years. He then returned with Sir Richard through Germany to England, & for sometime after the allowance was continued to Him, and until He told Sir Richard that He found Himself getting some money.—In all He recd. from the Hoare family between £1500 & £2000.

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* Madame Vigée Le Brun, eminent painter; Mrs. Damer, the sculptor; and Angelica Kauffman are the women referred to.

† S. Woodforde, R.A. See Index, Vols. II. and III. The D.N.B. says that Woodforde was born at Castle Cary in Somerset; but Dr. Robert E. H. Woodforde states that the artist was born at Ansford in Somerset, and that he was a relative of the Rev. James Woodforde, extracts from whose diary were published in book form this year (1924).

Celebrated Banking House

He told me He had been informed that the profits of the *Banking House* are estimated at £30,000 a year, and that it is a rule for the Head partner to have *half of it*, the second partner half of the remainder, and so on in proportion.—Sir Richard has four Brothers all of whom are in the Banking House, and a Sister* married to the Honble. Mr. Fortescue.—Sir Richard Hoare's estate is estimated at between 9 & £10,000 a year. He is now in His 49th. year, & has only one Child, a Son [Henry, who died in 1836], abt. 22 years of age, who has been at Oxford. Sir Richard is now busily employed on a work on the Antiquities of England, including a very full acct. of the Druids, & Druidical monuments & vestiges.—A work of great labour & expence, which, it is expected will not [be] sold at less than £20 a Copy when published.†

The late Mr. Hoare, of Bath, portrait painter, was not a relation of this family but was much esteemed by the late Mr. Hoare of Stourhead.—His eldest daughter married Mr. Hoare,‡ uncle to the present Sir Richard, who was called "fat Harry." He was a "Jovial liver" & died several years ago. His widow now resides at Beckenham in Kent,—but has no family.—

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* Henrietta Anne married first Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, secondly Captain the Hon. Matthew Fortescue, R.N. She died 1841.

† Ancient History of North and South Wiltshire, 2 vols., royal folio, 1810-19, with 97 plates, published at £21; a large paper edition £31 10s.

‡ Henry Hoare, second son of Sir Richard Hoare, Knight, married Mary, daughter of William Hoare, R.A., of Bath.

CHAPTER XXI

1807

Schoolmasters

January 8.—Yart, a pupil of mine before I went to Houghton [June, 1773] called. He told me he has had 14 Children, of which 7 are now living, viz. : one Son who is named *Joseph Farington*, & is now in the Queens regiment of [ ] and 6 daughters, the eldest 25 years old, & a *governess* at Lady Oxendon's* in Kent where she has 80 guineas a year.—He Has 3 other daughters situated in similar capacities.—He had another Son, named *after me*, who was my *God Son*, but He died.—He spoke much of what comes under his inspection as a *drawing Master*, and sd. the Art in this Country never will advance owing to the inundation of young men who throw themselves into it & practise superficially for a livelihood.—He spoke naturally as the world appears to Him, judging from what He experiences in His pursuit & in His Circle.—

A School at Ealing

He has taught drawing at Dr. Nichols school at Ealing 13 years, & spoke very highly of the admirable manner in which the school &c. is regulated.—There are now 186 Boys. Dr. Nichols is abt. 36 years old, & has 9 children. He said Dr. Nichols keeps an excellent table ; dines with the *Boys & other Masters* at 3 *oClock*, so that the weight of study is during the morning.—Yart attends twice a week, and has several other schools.—He taught drawing at Dr. Goodenough's† school but that was upon a different Plan. Only 15 Boys were taken & at 150 guineas a year.—Three or Four Sons of the Duke of Portland were educated there, but the Duke *never paid for them ;* but He did eventually much better for Dr. Goodenough, by first presenting Him to a living of £400 a year value ;—then obtaining for Him a *Canonry of Windsor ;* and lastly the *Deanery of Rochester ;* the whole, amounting to between 2 and £3000 a year.—He has retired from the school abt. 5 or 6 years & is abt. 67 years of age. A nephew, of his own name, married one of his daugrs. and now has the School. Quere, did not Dr. Goodenough marry a Sister of *Lord Sidmouth* & obtain most of the prefferment from Him ?

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* Lady Oxendon's husband was Sir Henry Oxendon, Bart., whose family had resided at Dene in Kent from the time of Edward III. Sir Percy Dixwell Nowell Dixwell-Oxendon is the present representative of this ancient family.

† Dr. Samuel Goodenough, D.C.L., 1743-1827, was in 1808 elevated to the Episcopal Bench as Bishop of Carlisle. Dr. Goodenough was married to Miss Elizabeth Ford, sister of Sir Richard Ford, who has been several times mentioned in the Diary. [See footnote, Vol. I., page 174.] This lady was the great-great-aunt of Mr. R. Ford, who owns a superb collection of pictures and drawings by Richard Wilson.

Mr. Ford sends the following rhyme about Dr. Goodenough on his preaching before the House of Lords :

" 'Tis well enough that Goodenough before the Lords should preach,
For sure enough, full bad enough were those he had to teach."

It was William Goodenough, M.D., who married, on June 2, 1770, Anne, eldest daughter of Anthony Addington and sister to Henry Addington, first Viscount Sidmouth. She died June 12, 1806.

January 11.—Nollekens sat to day to Edridge for a drawing a Portrait of Him.—He was to attend at Carleton House at 12 oClock to proceed in making a Model for a Bust of the Prince of Wales.—The Prince had already sat once or twice to Him & has commenced great familiarity with Him, calling Him " His friend Nollekens ".—

Lord & Lady Lucan* are separated. She resides in Cheshire. There are 5 or 6 children of whom His Lordship is very fond, Her infidelity to Her first Husband, Mr. Howard, with His Lordship, renders the obtaining a divorce now impracticable.—

Professional versus Amateur

January 12.—[John] Landseer called in the even'g.—He shewed me a copy sheet of printed Lectures, which were read at the Royal Institution.—He had proposed to publish them on his own account, but had now sold the first edition of 750 Copies to Longman & Co. of Paternoster Row.† He sd. He had written a Preface in which there was matter that might He had apprehended, be liable to action at Law, but He had put it into the hands of *Sir Saml. Romilly*, the Solicitor Genl. who had returned it with an opinion that it might safely be published.—He told me that the new proposed publication, to be called the *Director*, was first offered to *Prince Hoare* for Him to have the management of it. Hoare proposed that *Professional men should write in it*, but to this *Mr. Bernard*‡ who proposed the undertaking to Him *objected*, saying that what should be written ought to be by those who looked on rather than by those who practise.—Hoare soon after went out of town, and in the Country recd. from Mr. Bernard a Prospectus of the work, & a signification that He (Bernard) should conduct it.—Hoare upon this determined to publish a work of a similar nature, & had recd. assurances of support from Fuseli, Opie &c. and desired to be assisted by Landseer who agreed to it.—

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* Lady Lucan was Elizabeth Belasyse, third daughter of the last Earl of Fauconberg. She was divorced by Act of Parliament in 1794 from Bernard Edward Howard, afterwards Duke of Norfolk.

† " Lectures on the Art of Engraving delivered at the Royal Institution," published London, 1807, 6s. The notes accompanying this work severely commented on Josiah Boydell and on a pamphlet which Boydell had issued. The lectures at the R.I. were cut short by John Landseer's dismissal on the ground of disparaging allusion to Alderman John Boydell. John Landseer (A.R.A.) was the father of Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A.

‡ Afterwards Sir Thomas Bernard. See Index, Vols. II. and III.

Dr. Monro's* Second Son, a youth 15 years of age, now attends the Royal Academy regularly.—It had been His Father's intention to educate him for the *Navy*, but the inclination of the Son prevailed.—Dr. Monro has 5 Sons and one Daughter.

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* Dr. Monro was Turner's early patron, and his son, Henry Monro, who was born in 1791, won a premium of 100 guineas at the British Institution. An artist of considerable promise, he died in 1814.

CHAPTER XXII

1807

Hoppner and Lawrence

January 19.—Lane called,—was with Hoppner yesterday,—who sd. did not before know that He had an engagement with Lawrence,—but that He worked for Him occasionally,—offered Him 20 guineas for 8 copies of Mr. Pitts portrait, & signified that He might further employ Him.—Lane took time to consider the offer, but now I evidently saw He was inclined to leave Lawrence, having no hope that matters wd. go on better, said fretting abt. it caused His illness the last spring.—I then told Him Lawrence ought to know what had passed. He said He wd. go to Him,—He did & returned much heated, sd. that on his communicating to Lawrence that He had been with Hoppner, He bowed & left him.—

Lawrence I called on. He was much agitated abt. Lane's business. I told Him what Lane had said. He assured me that Lane declared He should leave Him,—and that it was in consequence of that that He bowed & left Him.—I represented to him how much the necessity of arrangement increased.—

Christian Humility

January 20.—Wilson* told me that He had frequently met Dr. Horsley, the late Bishop of St. Asaph,† at Mr. Palmer's, Brother to Mrs. Horsley the Bishop's second wife, & partner with Wilson in a House of *India Agency*.—He always found the Bishop proud,—holding commercial men at great distance, a man not to be approached by persons of that degree,—carrying Himself very high—no semblance of Christian Humility.—The period at which He died was unlucky.—He had *insured His life* for the benefit of His Creditors, being much in debt, and the *Policy expired upon the day on which he was taken ill, Tuesday*, and He died on the Friday following, so that His Creditors derived no benefit from his insurance, but claiming upon His property left it is supposed there will be about 15 shillings in the pound for them.—

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* Lestock P. Wilson, of 2, Frederick Place, Old Jewry, and Coopersale Grove, Epping, was fourth officer on the *Calcutta* (H.E.I. Co.) in 1771-72, and ended his seafaring career as captain of the *Exeter* in 1798-99. Afterwards he acted as an East India Agent, tendering for the *Cambridge*, 768 tons, on November 9, 1810, for example. See Vols. II. and III.

† Dr. Samuel Horsley. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

The Bishoprick of St. Asaph is about £7000 a year.—The Bishop left only one Child, a Son, abt. 28 or 30 years of age, to whom He had been enabled to give Church preferment to the amount of abt. £1500 a year,—but He has been a very dissipated man,—& is in debt to the amount of £1400. His Church preferment is sequestrated, & a plan has been formed by which in 12 years His debts will be paid & He will again be in possession of His Income.—When He obtained His valuable preferment, He began to build upon it upon a very large & expensive scale which has been stopped.

Army Apothecary

Wilson told me that John Calvert Clarke is a Bankrupt. He was, with His partners, in the Gazette on Saturday last.—He had been *Apothecary to the Army*, that is, had provided medicines for the Army, under the order of Mr. [————], by which principally, though his disposition had led Him into speculations, He had acquired £40,000.—When peace was made in 1782, He concluding that the army would be reduced, & the demand for Medicines become much less,—was induced by hope of advantage to connect Himself with two persons, Merchants in the City, and advanced to them for His share in the concern £40,000.—The whole business was transacted by them, for He was otherways too much occupied to examine their proceedings,—and though something of difficulty might have been mentioned to him yet the real situation of the concern was witheld from Him till it could not be concealed from Him that a Bankruptcy must take place ;—thus in 3 or 4 years He lost his whole fortune—He has by His second wife four Children, & by His former wife one child.

Rev. Sydney Smith

Mr. Mady* spoke of the good luck of Sydney Smith,† a popular preacher, who having been introduced at Holland House, so gained the regards of Lady Holland that lately one day when He dined there in company with the Lord Chancellor Erskine &c. &c. when the gentlemen went up to tea, Lady Holland addressed the Chancellor, & said He must make Her a promise.—He replied, by desiring to know Her request,—she said It was for the *first living* He had to give away, that it shd. be to Mr. Sydney Smith.—The Chancellor sd. it shd. be so,—& the next day a living of £600 a year becoming vacant He presented Smith to it, overlooking, as Mr. Mady said, many old and most respectable claimants to His favor.—

Dr. Holland a Physician, who married one of Lord Erskines daughters was spoke of.—When Lord Erskine was made Chancellor He said to Holland—" Leave yr. Physick & turn to Divinity."—Holland understood the hint,—took *orders*, & has already two or three livings.

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* Chaplain at St. James's Church.

† The Rev. Sydney Smith. See Index, Vol. III.

CHAPTER XXIII

1807

Lord Warwick's Protégé

January 23.—[Thomson, R.A. spoke of] an Artist of the name of *Wallis*,* a Landscape painter, who is lately returned from Italy. He at his outset recd. assistance from Lord Warwick.—While at *Rome* when the French first took possession of it, He behaved to the English Artists who were there in an infamous manner, having acted as a Spy upon them, & given such reports of them to the French Commanders as were intended to bring them into difficulties.—Duppa,—Thomson,—Head, &c. &c. were there at the time. Thomson wishing to proceed to Germany was desirous of obtaining a Passport from the French Commander in Chief, *General St. Cyr*, & at length obtained admission to Him. On his requesting the General's signature to a Passport, the General sd. it wd. not be required, the general order He had recd. to leave Rome wd. do; but on Thomson repeating His request, saying it might prevent future difficulties, the General proceeded to sign it, & *while looking at the paper*, *smiled*, & asked "Do you know *Mr. Wallis*,"—Thomson acknowledged that He did, as much as He would know of such a man.—The General continued *smiling* & said "*A clever man*"—This hint of General St. Cyr perfectly corresponded with what the Artists had heard of Wallis's conduct. General St. Cyr was a man of fine appearance & elegant manners, quite a man of rank, abt. 35 years of age.—

Detestable Conduct

In so great detestation was Wallis held, that one day coming into the English Coffee House at Rome, accompanied by *Gandy*,† all who were present immediately rose & retired from that room in which they were to another & ordered their Coffee to be brought to them.—

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* John William Wallis was a Scottish landscape painter, who about 1812 became a picture dealer. Duppa and Head were artists. See Vols. II. and III.

† Joseph Michael Gandy (1771-1843), who was a pupil of James Wyatt, the architect, won, in 1790, the gold medal at the Royal Academy Schools for a design of a triumphal arch, and while in Rome, was awarded the Pope's medal in the first class for architecture.

Elected an A.R.A. in 1811, he became associated with Sir John Soane, and his brilliant talents were "chiefly employed on works for which Soane got the chief credit," says Lionel Cust in the Dictionary of National Biography. Gandy was of an impracticable nature, and his life, saddened by disappointment and poverty, ended in insanity, it is said. He died in December, 1843, leaving a son, Thomas Gandy, portrait painter. Joseph published two works, one in 1805, "Designs for Cottages, Cottage Farms, &c.," and "The Rural Architect." Drawings by him are to be seen at the Soane Museum.

Wallis had married an English Woman who attended Him to Rome, where His ill behaviour to Her, it was believed, caused Her to lose Her senses.—He availed Himself of the Code of Laws *respecting Divorce* at that time established by the French, & agreeable to it, took a Roman woman to Wife, having, in the French manner, repudiated His lawful wife.—Thomson sd. that His conduct altogether had been such as to cause Him to be an object of execration to all that knew Him.—

At Hoppners a few nights ago He was spoken of as being returned to England and Reinagle Junr., who had known him at Rome, sd. He would inform the government of his Democratick conduct & the danger of his principles in order to have him sent away, but this as He is an Englishman, it was shewn cannot be, but Hoppner sd. if some particulars were given to Him, he would take care they should be communicated where they ought to be. Thomson sd. He has ingenuity in His profession, and a manner that may enable Him to introduce Himself to persons who ought to be guarded against Him & He hoped *I* & others wd. be aware of Him.

Wallis has got into acquaintance with Beechey.—He is between 40 & 50 years of age.—

Smirke calling in the even'g. A few days ago Wallis called upon Him sent up His name "Mr. Wallis from Italy."—He was a stranger to Smirke, who found Him a talking man, who spoke of *His friend Lord* Mount Cashell, &c. &c.—of Italy as the only country for an artist; England not a country to paint in;—seemed to hold British Art very cheap;—sd. Architecture had been his particular study,—that He had seen one specimen of Wyatt, which was so bad, that it [would] be difficult for an Architect of good taste to do anything so ill, though He were to attempt it with that view. Smirke sd. His aspect is of a very forbidding kind.—

Boydell and Business

January 24.—Boydell called & declined purchasing Lawrence's plate of the Bishop of Gloucester; but offered to sell the prints from it upon a Commission of 20 pr. cent, and that Lawrence should receive 80 guineas, the price He had paid for it, out of the first money recd. to that amount, the expenses of paper & printing &c. having been deducted; and that after 80 guineas had been paid, the Plate shd. then be considered to be their *joint property*, for which Boydell wd. take upon Himself the printing & publishing; but all expenses to be paid before any profits shd. be divided.—He sd. He has established a communication with *Branscomb's* and other principal Lottery Offices, by means of which He should be able very much to forward the sale of whatever He might publish. He gives to the Lottery Offices with which He engages Seven & a Half per cent. upon all they sell for Him. They in consequence are able to allow a profit to the *Country Offices*, for promoting the sale in every part of the Kingdom.

J. Offley called in the evening & informed me that a letter was this day recd. by Sir Gilbert Heathcote while sitting as Chairman of a Committee of the House of Commons, from Lord Howick, informing Him that His Lordship had recd. a letter from Lord Hutchinson stating that the Russians had defeated the French, that the latter had lost 4,000 men.—The Committee gave three cheers,—& Mr. Parker, a member of it, carried the news into the City where it produced a great effect.—All the News Offices, this evening, have the information in large Characters.—J. Offley also met a Mr. Noble who told Him that Mr. Freemantle, a Lord of the Treasury, had just mentioned to Him, that the Austrians had declared War against the French.*

January 26.—Mr. Phipps† I dined at.—The victory of the Russians was much talked of.—West said " in forming His judgment on such reports He looked to *dates*, & to positions.—As to Buonaparte returning to Warsaw from Osterniske [Ostrolenka], what wd. He have done had He defeated the Russians, He must go somewhere for Winter quarters & accomodation," inferring that He had did not prove that He had been beaten.—Our byass is generally shewn by our manner of receiving information.—

[The Herald contained an Official Note which was on the 24th (Saturday) transmitted by Lord Howick to the Lord Chancellor,—the sitting Committee of the House of Commons and the merchants at Lloyds.—

Bulletein—Jany. 24, 1807.

" Lord Howick had just recd. intelligence, of the truth of which He has not the least doubt, that an action was fought between the Russians and French, on the 27th of Decr. last, which continued three successive days, and on the last of which the French retreated, with the loss of 4,000 slain, & eighty pieces of Cannon.—The Scene of action was at Osterniske [Ostrolenka], sixty or seventy miles from Warsaw. The enemy made this retreat to within eight miles of that place, and were also entrenching themselves at Magdeburgh " (Marienburg).—Small note-book.]

A Great Project

January 27.—We looked at Hogarths Works. Boydell‡ pays an annuity of £250 a year for this property to a woman§ who is now upwards of 70 to whom, Mrs. Hogarth left the plates.—This annuity has been paid upwards of 20 years.—Boydell said that the work now sells very well, I understood Him on an average 40 sets in a year.—He said that the Plates *had never been retouched.*

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* Lord Howick, afterwards second Earl Grey. Lord Hutchinson, afterwards second Earl of Donoughmore. See entry under February 7th, and Index, Vols. II. and III.

† The Hon. Augustus Phipps. See Index, Vols. II. and III.

‡ Josiah Boydell. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

§ Mrs. Mary Lewis, cousin of Hogarth's wife, who was a daughter of Sir James Thornhill, the historical painter and Hogarth's master, and made a runaway marriage with Hogarth.

He read to me a grand plan for a most extensive publication which might be called, I said, "The History of the world exemplified."—A Series of pictures to be painted of subjects commencing with the Old Testament, and proceeding in Classes, through the Histories of all nations, forming together a whole, & each part being a complete work of itself,—this could be carried into execution by the use of Thirty or Forty Thousand pounds, and shd. Alexander Davidson,* wishing to distinguish himself as a Patron of the arts be disposed to advance that sum & carry on the work in conjunction with him, He had no doubt that the sale of 400 sets wd. pay all expences.—

Life and Liberty Safeguarded

He spoke of the manner in which *Judicial business* is carried on by the *Judges*,—They do not wait till the Hour of trial comes on but the evening before have documents of the matter put into their hands for their consideration; by which means they come into court fully prepared by a knowledge of the nature of each case.—Lady Alvanley told Mrs. Boydell that the late Lord Alvanley,† Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was occupied, in Term time, from soon after dinner till 12 oClock at night, in reading papers respecting what was to come on the following day; also obliged to be up by Six oClock in the morning to prepare to go to the Court.—The consequence of so much previous consideration is that the probability of the Issue of each trial is pretty well known before it comes on.—

Boydell sd. that the present Recorder of the City had told Him, That when [he] carries up a list of Convicts to the *King in Council* for final decision, the whole matter of a trial is gone into, being read by Him, & questions are asked sometimes by the *King*, & sometimes by the Lords of Council, such as whether such or such questions were put to Witnesses to throw more light upon the matter.—Thus guarded is the life & liberty of a British subject.—

At a trial at the Old Bailey, an Alderman of London may put a question to a witness; but He must do it through the Judge.—*Fielding*,‡ the Council, might have made a more distinguished figure in the Law than He has done, having sufficient ability, but He is too indolent. *Garrow*, at His outset, owed much to *Fielding*, who being too lazy to do the business which was offered to Him, turned it over to Garrow.—

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* Alexander Davison. See Vol. III., page 295.

† See Index, Vols. I. and III.

‡ William Fielding, oldest son of Henry Fielding, the novelist, was baptised on February 25, 1748. He practised on the Northern Circuit, but, as suggested by Boydell, had little business. He became a Magistrate for Westminster and died in 1820. Like his father, he had considerable conversational skill, could sing a good song, and tell stories to the taste of the younger barristers on circuit. Sir John Fielding, the notorious Bow Street Magistrate, was his uncle.

[**January 28.**—Miss Lee's* new Play of "*Assignation*" performed the first time—at Drury Lane Theatre—and was dissaproved and withdrawn.—From small note-book.]

January 29.—Lord Harcourt called, in one of the Royal Coaches, but I declined being *at home*, as I was busily engaged.

J. Offley's I dined at.—Captn. Thomson spoke of the vast expence incurred in forming Military defences at Dover & in its vicinity. The whole is under the direction of *General Twiss*, and 3 or 400 men, besides Officers are daily employed for that purpose, & as new ideas occur, works of great labour are done away and another plan adopted. It is also said it wd. require 40,000 men to defend the works, as they are very extensive. All that can be said is that the money laid out is among ourselves.—After tea a *Courier* was purchased which raised our spirits by informing us that the 49th. or 50th. Bulletien of the French Army had been recd. by our government, in which they allow that they had on the 27th. of Decr. 7000 men killed and 19 Generals.

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* See Vol. III., page 76*n*.

CHAPTER XXIV

1807

Shee and Hoppner

February 1.—Shee [R.A.] is separated from all parties in the Academy. He no longer has intercourse with Hoppner, & it is understood by Woodforde that it is founded upon Shee's objection to the conduct of Hoppner, who being a member of the Council sent many pictures for Exhibition in an *unfinished state*, & availing himself of having access to the Academy rooms, *finished them there*, which Shee says, is, virtually, as much against the meaning of the *Law* respecting the admission of Pictures intended for Exhibition, as it would be to keep them back beyond the time limited and then send them in.

Sir Joshua and the Bishop

February 2.—West said He had examined the Books of the Academy, and also recollected circumstances respecting the Electing the late Bishop of Limerick, (then Dr. Barnard, Bishop of Killaloe) Chaplain to the Royal Academy.—It was in October 1791 that Sir Joshua Reynolds wrote to West on the subject. Sir Joshua finding His Health declining, it being only four months before His death, thought proper to send a *second letter of Resignation* to the Royal Academy; which He did on the 10th. of November 1791; but previous to it wrote to West informing Him that the Bishop of Killaloe would be glad to accept the Office of Chaplain to the Royal Academy, provided it could be previously [ascertained] by private application that it would be agreeable to His Majesty.—Sir Joshua desired the Bishop to write to Him to *that effect*, which He did, & West happening then to be at Windsor, Sir Joshua wrote to Him & enclosed the Bishop's letter, & desired Him to obtain His Majesty's sentiments upon it. West immediately carried both letters to the King, who entirely approved the proposal & added that "It would begin with an *Irish Bishop;* but He might perhaps be followed by an English Bishop."—West having signified to Sir Joshua, His Majesty's approbation, at a general meeting on the 10th of November, the night on which Sir Joshuas letter of Resignation was read, Mr. West sat as Deputy President, at Sir Joshuas request, & proposed the Bishop of

Killaloe to be Chaplain & He was *immediately elected.* The resignation of Sir Joshua was not accepted, & it was the sense of the whole Academy that He shd. be continued President & that a Deputy might act for Him when required.

West said that He had now thought it most prudent to call a Council *this evening* at which he shd. propose the Bishop of Exeter to be Chaplain & that notice of it might be included in the Summons for a general meeting tomorrow.—I mentioned to Him that the Bishop when Elected ought to have *Lecture Tickets* sent to Him, for *Himself* & *others*, as Academicians have, as it would add to His idea of the appointment & also probably bring an addition of respectable company on those occasions.—He approved it.—

The Duke of Bronte

[**February 7.**—Yesterday, Earl Nelson was presented to His Majesty by Lord Grenville, upon His receiving the grant of a Pension and estate, and His Majestys permission to accept the title of Duke of Bronte, in Sicily, and also *Viscount Trafalgar*, (eldest Son of Earl Nelson) upon his assuming that title, instead of his former one of Viscount Merton. His Lordship, as a Knight of the order of St. Joachim, wore the Riband & Star of that Order, which lately adorned His Uncle, the immortal Nelson, the Hero of the Nile; and the Sword presented by His Majesty the King of Naples, to that ever to be lamented Chief. We understand that the Diamonds in the mounting of the Sword are of many thousand pounds value, and that it is the most brilliant ever exhibited at this Court, having been a present from His most Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, to His Son, the King of Naples.

Messrs. Barker & Dunnier arrived in town with dispatches for government from Russia. They left Petersburgh the 8th. of January, at which time great rejoicings prevailed there on account of the decissive victory gained by General Bennigsen over Buonaparte [in Poland, near Pultusk], on the Narew on the 26th. of December. The total loss of the French as stated in the account of the Russian Commander-in-Chief to his Court was 4,000 killed,—6000 prisoners, and 81 pieces of cannon: that of the Russians from 1500 to 2000.—A masked battery of the Russians swept away 3000 of the enemy.—This was the battle in which the French in their 47th bulletein, stated that the Russians were so completely routed & dispersed, that they could never again make head, as an Army, & that therefore the French had nothing to do but to go into winter cantonments.—From small note-book.]

A Book Collector

February 13.—Waldron, the Shoemaker, who resided formerly in Basinghall Street died the last day of April last at the age of 65.—He left a widow, & one child only, a daugr. who is married, & has children. He died possessed of property which will produce near £1000 a year. His father had saved some money,—which was inherited by Waldron

& another Son, who also died & Waldron was His Heir. He married a woman who had abt. £1500. She died, & He married Her Sister who had abt. the same Sum.—His passion was for collecting *Books* & *Prints*, and the Collection He made is estimated at £3000 being a very choice one. It is now to be sold by King & Co.

Captain Thomas Manby

February 14.—Lawrence I passed the day & evening with looking over accounts & preparing them.—It was expected the P——s wd. have gone to Court on Thursday last in consequence of what she had recd. from the Commissioners: but it now appears that the P—— has come forward upon the foundation of something which happened at *High Cliff* near Ramsgate or Broadstairs.—It is said a Gardener has given evidence of having seen Captn. Manby* go into the House at unseasonable Hours.—Lord St. Vincent was examined by the Commissioners & said He had, at the time the P——s was at High Cliff, a letter stating that she understood [the] residence there wd. be insecure unless a Ship was stationed near that place, & she desired a frigate might be sent & named the *Africane*, Captn. Manby, which was accordingly ordered thither.—The P——s now speaks of Captn. Manby with great contempt, which some think is not prudent.—

Authors and Publishers

February 15.—Baker's I dined at.† Duppa complained much of the conduct of Robinsons, the Booksellers, in Pater-noster-row, on acct. of their conduct respecting the publication of "*His fall of the Papal Power.*"‡ The first edition was 500, and the books were sold at 5s.—for this edition they paid him £40.—but a second edition was published, 750, and for this they brought Him in *Debtor* 25 *guineas.*—He remonstrated with them and they told Him that they had considered Him a gentleman & that He did not look for profit.

A Mr. Beresford is the Author of a book intitled "*The Miseries of human life*" which has sold prodigiously, so as to produce to Beresford a profit of £1000.§

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* Afterwards Rear-Admiral Thomas Manby. See Vol. III., page 297 and *note.*

† George Baker. See Vols. I., II. and III.

‡ Richard Duppa. See Vol. II., page 111. "A Journal of the most remarkable Occurrences that took place in Rome upon the subversion of the Ecclesiastical Government in 1798."

§ James Beresford (1764-1840), miscellaneous writer, second son of Richard Beresford, was born at Upham, Hants. Educated at Charterhouse and Merton College, Oxford, he became rector of Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicestershire, in 1812, and died there on September 29, 1840. The full title of the work was "The Miseries of Human Life; or, the Last Groans of Timothy Testy, and Samuel Sensitive, with a few supplementary Sighs of Mrs. Testy," London, 1806-7. It was praised by Sir Walter Scott, and ran through several editions. Beresford was author also of poetical translations and religious books.

Duppa dined a few days ago with P[rince] Hoare at Murray's the Bookseller, in Fleet Street. Cumberland, the Author was there & read a paper which He had written on Plays something in the manner of Johnson's lives of the Poets.—It was very well written & Hoare urged Him to let it be published in His new periodical work, " The Artist."—Hoare told Duppa that He had a very able paper on " Knight's principles of Taste ",—(by Hoppner).—

It appeared at the time of Mr. Pitts death that several of his friends had advanced money to Him, viz: Lord Camden, C. Long, J. Smith, the Bishop of Lincoln, & two or three others—£2000 each.—After Mr. Pitts death the Bishop was the only one who claimed His money.—

CHAPTER XXV

1807

Catalani at the Opera

February 16.—Lawrence I dined with; and we proceeded in the investigation of His business. [He was then in financial difficulties.]—Comrie, an Attorney, called from Taylor of the Opera House, to desire Lawrence to paint a picture of Madame Catalani.*—She produces greater profits to the Opera House than were ever before known, the receipts of the House, exclusive of Boxes, is upon an average between 6 & £700 a night. These great receipts will enable Taylor & the other Proprietors to clear off their incumbrances.—Catalani is engaged at £2000 for the Season.—Mrs. Billington had £2500 but this was concealed from Her by Gould who engaged Her, and told Her that no Foreigner had recd. more than £2000, from which she concluded no person had recd. more than that Sum.—She is very much attached to Her Husband, & cannot be approached by those who would offer temptations to Her.—

Lord Abercorn has been in Ireland, & so many estates let for a term of years have returned to Him that He has raised His estates £30,000 a year, making His rent roll £60,000 a year.—

Wordsworth

February 17.—Dance I dined with.—We had much conversation on Poetry. Smirke expressed Himself strongly on the great excellence of Wordsworths poetry, and said while reading some of his poetical productions He had been quite overcome.—Dance also appeared to be much delighted with them.—Both scouted mere versification, which is too often admired.—Dance sd. that alone is true poetry, which expresses the strong feelings of the mind of the author so as to cause the heart of the reader to vibrate in unison with those feelings.—He said that He had never *been* affected by the works of *Dryden*, so as to acknowledge Him to have been a great poet.—

Smirke on Sunday last dined in company with Roscoe, the Historian, & was much pleased with Him. He said Roscoe had the simplicity of a farmer, has much anecdote, & no affectation.—Roscoe spoke of Whitbreads speech on the late Negociation for Peace with France, with great admiration. He said Whitbread seemed while delivering it to be inspired. Roscoe seemed entirely to concur with Whitbread that the French government was really in earnest to make peace, & that it wd. have been prudent to have agreed to it.—

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* Angelica Catalani. See entry under December 17, 1806.

February 18.—Gandy called to ask in what manner He could apply to the Royal Academy for the situation of *teacher of perspective* in the Royal Academy—I told Him His application should be made by a letter addressed to the President & Council.—He told me He practised perspective in a way different from that which had been hitherto taught. Instead of working upon a *strait* line, He works upon a *curve line* by which He avoids the error of lengthening the lines falsely toward the ends of the pictures.—

Society of Antiquaries

February 19.—Society of Antiquaries I went to it being the night appointed for the Election of a Secretary in the room of the Revd. Mr. Brand. Lord Leicester, President, in the Chair.—

The Candidates were :

Nicholas Carlisle Esqr. brother to the Surgeon.
The Revd. Mr. Dibdin, Lecturer at the British Institution.
The Revd. Thos. Cox.

The room was extremely crowded. Mr. Ray of the Temple spoke before the ballotting began against the practise of having lists scored with the name of a Candidate prepared to be delivered to Members.—Lord Leicester, rose, & said that, in the conduct of the business there was no favor or partiality ; but He avowed that He had espoused the opinion of those gentlemen in the Society who were desirous of placing as Secretary Mr. Carlisle, a gentleman perfectly competent to the duties of the Office, and this He did as He shd. ever be disposed to support the opinion of those gentlemen who had for Twenty Three years, given Him their support in the situation He now filled.—Another person spoke and seemed to disapprove this open avowal of His Lordship. Lysons in a low tone sd. the custom of *scoring lists* for delivery was usual, & that unscored lists might be had.—

The Ballott was then begun,—Scrutineers having been appointed.—Each Member delivered a List of all the Members, having made a *score* under the name of His favorite candidate. And also a piece of paper on which He had *written* the same. The former (the List) was to make Him Secretary,—the latter, *to make Him a Member of the Council.*—

I was among the first who voted & got home at 20 minutes past 8.—The whole of the Council, except Willis, had publickly declared for N. Carlisle.—I remained at home after returning from the Society & before Eleven Daniell sent a note to me which He had just recd. from A. Carlisle stating that the Election was over, and the result as follows,—viz. :

N. Carlisle 125.—Dibdin 72.—Cox 25.

[Commodore Sir Home Popham* arrived in London on Tuesday even'g last from Weymouth. He sailed from the River Plate Decr. 27th. last, and made the quickest passage ever known from thence, viz : in 50 days. Admiral Sterling, who superseded Him arrived there on the 22nd. of Decr. but witht. any troops or transports whatever.—From small note-book.]

The Banker and Sir Joshua

February 20.—Lawrence called and informed me that He had recd. a letter from Mr. Coutts last night & this morning had seen Him and had desired I might call upon Him to day respecting His business, which Mr. Coutts agreed to.—At 3 oClock having prepared a Statement and plan, I went to Mr. Coutts & sat with Him more than Half an Hour. I was much pleased with His manner. He wished success to the plan, & said He shd. do nothing to oppose it.—He told me He was acquainted with Sir Joshua Reynolds while He was pupil to Hudson. He said when Sir Joshua began to get money He did not know what to do with it being totally ignorant of such matters, which having communicated to an acquaintance of His who resided in the Temple, this friend desired to have his money & He would settle it for Him in the public funds.—Sometime passed before Mr. Coutts was informed by Sir Joshua how He was proceeding ; but having heard it, He desired Sir Joshua wd. ask His friend in what Fund the money had been placed. The answer Sir Joshua brought to Mr. Coutts was that it was in the Long Annuities.—Upon this Mr. Coutts applied at the Bank to see how it stood, but was there told that no money was in that fund in the name of Sir Joshua.—Mr. Coutts reported that to Sir Joshua & urged Him to ask His friend about it, who still persisted that the money was vested in the Long Annuities. Sir Joshua desired Him to converse with Mr. Coutts abt. it, & they met, & after some time his friend acknowledged that He had not laid the money out in the Funds, but had employed it in some speculations, but that made no difference as the money was safe. This unprincipled conduct gave cause of alarm, but by proper management the money was gradually recovered.

Mr. Coutts's manner was remarkably soft & humane. He reminded me of Mr. Lock & of Gilpin [R.A.].—He said He had never known an instance of a person getting into difficulties about money matters witht. His principles being vitiated by His necessities :—Indeed, He added, It originated in some want of principle, as those of strict principles are too guarded & prudent in their conduct not to keep clear of falling into such a situation.—I observed that Mr. Coutts read & wrote witht. spectacles, though He must be at least, from the above acct. near 80 years of age.

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* See Index, Vol. III.

Sir Joshua Reynolds

From a self-portrait in the National Portrait Gallery

[*To face* p. 88

CHAPTER XXVI

1807

Capture of Curacoa

[**February 23.**—An Extraordinary Gazette was published to day giving the leading particulars of the important capture of the Dutch Island of Curacoa, in the West Indies on the first of January last, by four frigates under the orders of Captn. Brisbane of the Arethusa.—The other frigates, The Latona, Anson, and Fisguard.—The Tower & Park guns were fired on Saturday afternoon.

An Order of Council was issued that all British Vessels which have cleared out from any of the Ports of the United Kingdom to Buenos Ayres & the river Plate, may proceed to any Port in St. Domingo not occupied by the French or Spaniards, there to dispose of their cargoes, & to lade produce in return, or to tranship Cargoes to Neutral vessels, & to send the same for sale to any hostile Colony, & to bring back returns on board such Neutral Vessels to any port of the United Kingdom.

Sir George Yonge appointed Governor of Tortola.—From small note-book.]

Waggery

February 25.—Sir Francis Baring said it was very true that a whaggery was played off upon His friend the late Marquiss of Lansdowne. A letter written imitating Mr. Pitt's hand was sent to the Marquiss as from Mr. Pitt requesting an interview with His Lordship signifying that it was upon government business.—To this His Lordship wrote an answer to Mr. Pitt expressing His readiness to wait upon him at such time as might best suit him, and adding a compliment that the weight of government at that time rested upon Him who was best able to bear it.—On receiving this unexpected letter Mr. Pitt did not write an answer, but politely called on Lord Lansdowne, & on accosting Him, told His Lordship that some persons had endeavoured to make themselves merry at their expense.—

Lawrence told me that His Sister estimated the expences of Her Fathers family while he lived in Greek Street to be £800 a year.

February 28.—Sheridan has promised Prince Hoare to furnish Him with an Essay on *Novel writing* which He wrote a long time since

& intended to have prefixed it to an edition of his Mothers Novel of *Sidney Biddulph.*[*]—Northcote attended the two Lectures read by Opie at the Royal Academy on the 16th & 23rd inst.—The introduction to the first Lecture Northcote thought to be much *Opie's own* & the originality which was in it made it more interesting than what followed, as in the after parts of His Lecture He treated of subjects which He could not do but by adopting the opinions of others. Boaden sd. "That He tore whole leaves out of Fuseli." The introduction seems to have run much upon the want of patronage in this Country.

Commerce and Landed Interest

March 1.—Sir Martin Folkes called after Church time. We talked of [Admiral] Sir Home Pophams case His trial being impending.[†]—He noticed the impropriety of Sir Home in assuming the authority of a Secretary of State in writing letters to the principal Commercial towns after the Capture of Buenos Ayres.—His sentiments were not favorable to any possibility of Sir Home's case, unless He could shew that He had official orders.—For his own part He sd., He could hardly wish that we should occupy the Spanish posessions in the South America ; He said that were they added to what is now posessed in India, it would be encreasing the weight of the Commercial interest to such a degree as to overwhelm the landed interest of this Country.

He mentioned the great proportion of Commercial men who have now obtained Seats in the House of Commons, who with all their wealth, pay little of Taxes, in comparison with what falls upon Country gentlemen. He said they who had 4 or £5000 a year, & who formerly experienced the comfort of independence & ease now go on with difficulty.—Upon such the burden really falls.—

I mentioned Mr. Whitbreads plan for educating & maintaining the poor. He appeared to think it a doubtful matter ; but He said Mr. Whitbread had gone abt. in the most prudent way, by giving time, & by soliciting the opinions of the Magistrates throughout the Kingdom.—

Flaxman Fully Employed

March 2.—Flaxman I called on to see his model for Sir Joshua Reynolds's monument, which having modelled in Small, He is now modelling one half the size of the marble figure which is to be above 7 feet. Metcalfe, Malone & Lady Thomond have finally approved this design.—He told me that He had been in Competition with *Bacon* for a

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[*] Frances Chamberlaine, wife of Thomas Sheridan. Her novel, "Miss Sidney Bidulph," was published by Richardson in 1761, and met with high approval. The second part was issued in 1767.

[†] See entry under March 11.

Monument to Lord Cornwallis* to be erected at Bombay by a subscription made at that place. The Commission was sent to Lord Teingmouth &c. who referred the Models of Flaxman & Bacon to The Marquiss of Stafford—Charles Long—Lord Dartmouth—Henry Bankes & R. Payne Knight,—who have decided in favor of Bacon, saying it was a more magnificent design than Flaxman's.—Flaxman is to have a compensation for the trouble He has taken & Lord Teingmouth &c. have informed Him that He shall execute a *Cenatoph*.

He expressed himself to be very easy about the matter, & shd. be so if He should not obtain one of the government monuments, saying that He was fully employed, and thought more abt. excelling in his art than of anything else.—He sd. Bacon's designs for the public monuments were not to his taste,—but He thought there were many ingenious parts in Westmacotts designs,—& He also saw merit in those by Rossi.—

He told me the Students of the Academy felt under such obligation to Fuseli that they had resolved to present Him with a Silver Cup as a memorial of it, & had already subscribed £36 towards it meaning to make it £40.—The subscription half a guinea each.—*Wilkie* had called on him to request He wd. make a design for it,—which He promised to do, and desired to be admitted to subscribe His guinea, as having been a Student, declining their offer to remunerate him for his trouble.—He sd. Fuseli by his attention to the Students has extremely advanced them in *drawing*.

Hogarth and Barry

He regretted that Fuseli was not continued Professor of Painting & the more so from having heard Opie's *2nd. Lecture* on Monday last, which He sd. had a Democratic spirit in it, & was charged with complaint of want of patronage, instancing *Hogarth* & *Barry* as great geniuses neglected.—In the latter instance He observed "*That the public wd. bury Him who they had starved.*" This He sd. was a false statement of the matter. The public by a subscription had acted generously to Barry & He by His offensive manners brought all the dislike upon Him which He experienced.—Hogarth peevishly dedicated His print of the March to Finchley to the King of Prussia, because the picture had not been approved by the Monarch of his own country, but it was not likely to be so.—How cd. the King be supposed to approve a picture which represented those troops who were going out to defend His Crown against Rebellion, in so disgraceful a manner,—licentious, disorderly & with obscenity.*

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* Mr. S. M. Edwardes, The *Indian Antiquary*, Meraldene, Chislehurst, writes: It is of interest to recall the fact that Sir James Mackintosh, Recorder of Bombay, originally wrote to Flaxman, asking him to undertake the work.

Bacon's statue, which is 6ft. 3in. in height, was erected on the old Cotton Green, and now stands in the modern Elphinstone Circle Garden, opposite the Town Hall, Bombay. It has long been regarded with veneration by a section of the lower classes; and Hindu constables of the Bombay City Police, if summoned to the head police office for reprimand or punishment, are accustomed to worship the statue, offering it flowers and a cocoa-nut, in the hope of securing thereby a light punishment (see the "Bombay City Gazetteer," Vol. III.).

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* "The March of the Guards to Scotland in the year 1745," usually called "The March to Finchley." This famous painting is graphically described in Christopher Smart's "Student," also by Hogarth's friend, Justice Welch. George II. was incensed with Hogarth for burlesquing the "gentlemen of the Army," and, it is said, even hinted that he should be picketed for his offence. The artist, on his part, was so angry that he inscribed the print to the King of Prussia, as "an Encourager of *Arts* and *Sciences*," and the German Monarch, highly gratified by the honour bestowed on him, made fitting acknowledgment. When Hogarth sold his works by lottery in 1750, it was found that the "Fortunate Chance was Number 1941, which belongs to the said [Foundling] Hospital and that same Night (April 31) Mr. Hogarth delivered the Picture to the Governors." The painting still hangs in the Guilford Street institution. Sullivan's well-known print after it was published in December, 1750.

CHAPTER XXVII

1807

Boxer and Duellist

March 2.—Carlisle sd. He was one of the Surgeons who attended Mr. Richardson who at the end of the last Summer [September 21, 1806] was wounded in a duel with Baron Hompesch.* He was shot *through the body*, the ball passing through the Liver, Lungs, & grasing some of the Vessels near the heart.—On receiving the wound, He fell, and was convulsed, & for an hour appeared to be dying, but afterwards recovered His senses, & was brought to His lodgings in Parliament street & was able to walk from the carriage to an apartment on the ground floor, & to assist in undressing Himself.—His constitution being very strong He was able to endure the vast evacuations that could alone save his life by preventing inflammation & fever, as had suppuration taken place His death wd. have been certain.—In 13 days 236 ounces of blood were taken from his *arm*, besides 3 quarts of blood from his *side*. He was reduced to the lowest state possible witht. extinguishing life. For the 5 first days He had no sustenance allowed Him, & then only a piece of toasted bread which had been steeped in water.—Some female friends at one period having observed Him to be very low, gave him ½ a pint of milk porridge, which soon raised His pulse from 76 to 120 and it became necessary to bleed Him twice to prevent the worst consequences.

At last He recovered & is now quite well & may live 30 years longer, but He is an intemperate man, and associating with Officers at Woolwich has since been twice drunk, & been as many times bled. He is a younger brother of a person of good fortune in Kent, & has an estate of His own. —He is a Boxer; and *Hompesch* is a Duellist. In the quarrel between them in a street in London He knocked *Hompesch* down once or twice,

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* Mr. Ernest Taylor writes: Various details of Baron Hompesch's extraordinary career and character are given in "The Taylor Papers," published by Longman several years ago. This duel is also referred to therein, and Sir Herbert (then Colonel) Taylor was one of the military authorities to whom Hompesch actually asked the question whether he ought not to challenge Richardson again, seeing that the latter had *eventually* recovered from his wound. Taylor's reply was that if he *did* challenge Richardson again he certainly deserved to be hanged. The etiquette of "*giving satisfaction*" in those days was indeed remarkable!

& as a blow given in *Germany*, cannot be expiated but by the death of one of the parties, *Hompesch* since Richardson's recovery has consulted military persons, " whether He ought not to challenge him again."—Hompesch behaved very ill at the Duel, His pistol when fired a second or third time only *flashed in the pan*, but the second of Richardson attending to what He considered to be the Laws of Duelling, instantly appealed to the Baron's *Second*, That He ought not to fire again before Richardson had pulled His trigger. While words were passing between them the Baron levelled His pistol & shot Richardson. He is said to be a paltry Character.

Wine and Brandy

Carlisle does not drink wine. He found it did not agree with him & he left it off. He said persons who are in the habit of drinking wine if they pass through the period of from 40 to 50 may go on & live to 70 or 80 :—but it is a cause of disorders frequently coming on at 60.—He allowed that those who drink wine are less liable to *infectious fevers* than those who abstain from it.—In His opinion it is better to get drunk *once a week* than to drink a *pint of wine every day*.—The Liver, He said, is disturbed by wine.—He admitted that there are constitutions to which it is necessary & as such He occasionally prescribes it.—

Dr. Wolcot (Peter Pindar) was spoken [of] as being in a breaking up state.—Carlisle & Mrs. Carlisle were at a House where in one day He drank a *bottle of Brandy*. He said, there were three things which wd. preserve a man. " Fire, Flannel, and Brandy."—

Horne Tooke has been a drinker of Brandy. On one occasion He sat opposite to an Acquaintance, & they drank to each other glass for glass of pure Brandy, each encouraging the other to fill His glass.—

I Named Pitt

The Rev. Mr. Burroughs was yesterday at the Annual Welch Feast at the Free Masons Tavern Sir Charles Morgan in the Chair. There were more than 400 persons present.—The *Prince of Wales's* health was drank in the Common way witht. any particular emotion, but the Health of the *Princess of Wales* was drank with long continued and singular applause, manifesting most forcibly the public feeling in her favour.

Sir Robert Salusbury asked me who I thought was the greatest Orator I had ever heard. I named Mr. Pitt. He agreed with me, and sd. He saw, as through a perspective glass, to the end of every subject. In his speeches He preserved a regular flow of expression, clear & continued, while on the contrary Mr. Fox often hurried on to perplexity & had to return & recover the thread of his argument.

Lawrence's Financial Troubles

March 4.—After breakfast I called on [ ] Antrobus* and Coutts Trotter at the Banking House & was with them from Ten till Eleven oClock.—Trotter produced a plan which He had formed in which in order to enforce a regular attention to business He proposed that Trustees should be appointed under a penalty of £1000 to engage that L. shd. do what He proposed within a given time.—I objected to the penalty; He sd. such a responsibility cd. only be expected from one who had an interest in urging L. to apply, therefore it ought to be a Creditor. I told Him if the proposal shd. be made to Comrie [the solicitor] it might overset the whole plan, by His insisting upon having his money immediately.—I expressed my hope that if *I & Lysons* were appointed we shd. be able to do all that could be done, though we shd. not bind ourselves under a penalty.—He sd. He had such experience of the difficulty of making L. attend to any promise that He wd. not again undertake it. —Finally it seemed probable that *I & Lysons* shd. act as Trustees & that rects. & payments shd. be made in the books of their House, by which they wd. see how matters went on.—Trotter sd. He wd. send me a Copy of his plan.—

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* Edmund Antrobus (c. 1750-1826), who was knighted in 1815.

Russian Victory at Eylau

March 8.—Lord Thomond's I dined at.—Sir Francis Hartwell came to tea & brought an *Extraordinary Gazette* just published,—stating that Genl. Bennigsen on the 7th. and 8th. of Febry. at *Eylau* near Konnigsbergh, repulsed & finally defeated the French Army under Buonaparte destroying upwards of 12000 of them—the Russians lost 5 or 6000.—

His Lordship said that while *Admiral Byng* who was afterwards shot at Portsmouth, was in confinement at Greenwich previous to His being removed to Portsmouth to take His trial, His Lordship then an Officer in the Guards had for a time the care of the Admiral, who had not the least apprehension of what wd. be the sentence upon Him. The virulence of party against him was excessive. The windows of the rooms in which He was confined had *Bars* put before them, and the *Chimney also* to prevent His escaping. At the latter He was indignant, & asked whether they supposed He shd. become a Chimney Sweeper.—He talked to Lord Thomond (then Captain O'brien) of his garden at Wrotham, & expressed a hope of seeing him there.—He was a fine handsome looking man.—The sentence upon him was *Death* for *Cowardice*.—Lord Thomond reprobated the punishment as most unjust.—

CHAPTER XXVIII

1807

Settled at Last

March 11.—Mr. Angerstein told [Lawrence] that He heard the long depending matter respecting the Princess of Wales had at last been settled to Her Royal Highness's satisfaction.—From another quarter He had learnt that after the Commissioners had acquitted Her Royal Highness of the accusations brought against Her & recommended a prosecution of Lady Douglas for calumny, His Majesty signified that He would see Her Royal Highness & she proposed to go to Windsor.—But it was signified to Her that His Majesty shd. first visit Her. This she was privately informed by some of the *younger females* of the *family* was a *put off* caused by the Prince of Wales who went to Windsor & had a long audience of His Majesty & seemed to be well pleased with the effect of it.—Upon this the Princess wrote to the King expressing what was due to Her character & that she shd. if forced to the necessity, *publish all the proceedings*, that the world might judge of Her conduct & that of those who were Her enemies. Some days passing witht. any answer being recd. *Mr. Perceval* the late Attorney General, gave directions by Command of Her Royal Highness to have them printed at a private press, & some part being finished, He wrote to the *Marchioness Townshend* Mistress of the Robes to Her Highness, to inform Her of it.

Indiscretion of the Marchioness

She imprudently & improperly witht. further communication went to *Booth*, a Bookseller & informed Him that such a publication was coming out.—This He told to Cawthorne Printer & Bookseller, to Her Royal Highness, who being hurt at not being employed went to Mr. Perceval to speak abt. it. Mr. Perceval was surprised at the indiscretion of the Marchioness in this stage of the business, & informed Him that He, Cawthorne, or others, had nothing to do with the matter nor had He anything to say to Him upon it, & dismissed Him. It is understood that the Prince of Wales had referred the whole matter to His own Council & it is now concluded that they have represented to Him that the publication might more affect Him than Her Royal Highness.—

Mrs. William Lock [the "beautiful Miss Jennings"] called upon Lawrence today & with Her came Her Father Mr. Jennings, a very singular man. He dresses like a pauper,—wears a Hat which He wore 30 years ago; and never has His shoes cleaned. He is supposed to be 75 or 6 years old. He was formerly a *Count* in His appearance, dress & manner.—

[The trial of Sir Home Popham terminated. The sentence of the Court Martial was in the following terms: "The Court is of opinion that the Charges have been proved against the said Captain Sir Home Popham;—That the withdrawing, without orders so to do, the whole of any Naval Force from the place where it is directed to be employed, and the employing it in distant operations against the enemy, more especially if the success of such operations should be likely to prevent its speedy return, may be attended with the most serious inconvenience to the public service; as the success of any plan formed by His Majesty's Ministers for operations against the enemy, in which such Naval force might be included, may, by such removal, be entirely prevented. And the Court is further of opinion, that the conduct of the said Captain Sir Home Popham, in the withdrawing the whole of the Naval Force under His Command from the Cape of Good Hope, the proceeding with it to Rio de la Plata, was highly censurable; but in consideration of circumstances, doth adjudge him to be only severely reprimanded, and He is accordingly severely reprimanded."—His Sword was then delivered by the Provost Marshal to the President, Sir Wm. Young, who directed Him to return it to Sir Home Popham, which He did with a respectful salutation.—

Upon Sir Home quitting the Ship, He was cheered with loud acclamations from a vast number of boats which waited the issue of the trial; and also from an immense number of people assembled upon the Beach, who followed Him to the House of Captn. Madden.—From small notebook.]

Pitt's Monument

Westall [R.A.] called in consequence of Payne Knight & Charles Long having been with him to look at His design for Mr. Pitt's monument. Long was pleased with it. Knight when alone with Westall told him He did not approve Westmacott's design for Mr. Pitts monument & said "it consisted of a figure speaking what another figure was recording & two other figures sat like persons weary of hearing it." Knight doubted whether the Committee wd. allow Rossi to execute Westall's design as He had already one of the large Monuments given to Him,—& asked whether Nollekens or Flaxman would not do it? Westall replied "He believed not," and added that Rossi was empty of work, but the others were fully employed.—Knight desired Westall to send His design to Him tomorrow, in order that it may be laid before the Committee of Taste on Saturday.—

The Prince's Tailor

[Joseph] Minet* I dined with. William Offley [wine merchant] employs *Weston* a Taylor in Bond Street, who also works for the Prince of Wales. West[on] told William a few days since that the Prince is extremely reduced in his size, so much so that Cloaths which He formerly wore hang like great coats upon Him, and are obliged to be taken in greatly.† He also said that the Prince looks very old & wrinkled, very much so considering his age. His Domestics speak of it with much concern fearing for their situations. He eats now at dinner only *Fish & Salad*, & drinks no wine.—West[on] also observed that his temper is not so good as it was. He is hasty abt. trifles, about the placing of a button, and peevish.—He goes to Mrs. Fitzherberts in the evening & remains with Her till two or three oClock in the morning when He goes to bed & lays till 12 or one oClock.—Since the death of Mr. Fox He has worn *Black Cloaths* only, & since Christmas last has had only *two suits*, which is very little compared with what He had formerly. —West[on] believes He has some hundred suits of Cloaths in his wardrobe.—

A Proud Merchant

Minet mentioned that George Barclay, member for Bridport, & a Merchant, having constantly voted with the Fox party, obtained the appointment of a Commissioner to decide upon Prussian Captures after war with that power commenced.—Having been made a Bankrupt a few years ago, He paid 20 shillings in the pound, with interest, but being a man of excessive pride & overbearing haughtiness He never has shewn himself upon the Exchange since that period. On Friday the 28th. of February last in the morning He went to Blackwall where He passed the day, & in a House there drank a bottle of Brandy. It appears that He went out with an intention to destroy himself. He had pistols in His pocket, but does not seem to have had resolution to use them ; however in the evening He took a Boat at Blackwall & came town-[wards] & soon after the Boat had passed London Bridge He threw Himself into the Water.

He was caught in the water by a man & struggled hard with him but was at last got out & carried to a House apparently dead : but in abt. an Hour was recovered. From papers in his pocket it was found who He was. He was desirous that his name should not be mentioned, so that in the Newspapers it was noticed witht. a name being given. He was taken to His House in Grafton Street, Bond Street.—Minet remarked, That after His Bankruptcy He always passed Him (Minet) with an assumed look of haughtiness, as much as to say, "You won't look upon me as you did formerly, but I despise you."—It is now fixed that He is to quit business which will be a *happiness* to His partners.—He maintained His parliamentary interest at Bridport by professing to be a *Dissenter.*

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* See Vols. I., II. and III.

† At the Old Coffee Mill, 3, St. James's Street, S.W., now occupied by Messrs. Berry Bros., the wine merchants, all the eminent people of the Kingdom were weighed from time to time and their names and weights were registered in books, which are still preserved, as are the huge scales then used, and indeed still so used to-day by Messrs. Berry. Here are some extracts showing the weight of the Prince of Wales at various dates :

1797, Dec. 5th, 17st. 8lb. Boots.
1798, Jany. 2nd. 16st. 8lb. After gout.
1805, Jany. 21, 11st. 12½lb. Boots.
The Prince was not again weighed.

CHAPTER XXIX

1807

A Committee of Taste

March 16.—Westall called having been with Mr. Knight who informed Him that the *Committee of Taste* which consists of 15 persons, on Saturday last decided that Westmacott should have *Mr. Pitts* monument & that Flaxman should have *Lord Nelson's*. Mr. Knight mentioned the liberality of Westmacott *who had permitted that Flaxman shd. adopt* part of a design He had made for a monument to Lord Nelson.—Westall's design for Mr. Pitts monument cd. not therefore be adopted, & Mr. Knight was desired to express to him the thanks of the Committee for the communication of His design.

R.A. Generosity

West I called on & found Him & Mrs. West together. He was painting a sort of *Apotheosics* of Lord Nelson, to be engraved for Clarke's* life of Lord Nelson.—I spoke to Him abt. Nixon. He sd. the Academy had paid near £700 in pensions, donations, &c., & applications were still coming in.

Mrs. West mentioned the inconvenience of *H* coming to their house just before *dinner time* & said it could not be continued. West sd. it was an interruption to Him at present, as when He has begun a work, it so occupies His mind that both in the day & by candle light He perseveres in executing His thoughts.—Besides He sd. the conversation is wholly uninteresting mostly in some way abt. Himself—a sort of innocent insanity.—At times Mrs. West sd. He talks of His possessing great property, at other times that He has not one guinea to rub against another.

[At a meeting of the Council of the Royal Academy William Turner, R.A. offered himself, by letter, a candidate to fill the Office of Professor of Perspective.—From small note-book.]

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* The Rev. James Stanier Clarke. See Vol. III., page 159.

Sir John Leicester* has bought Turner's view of *Schaffhausen* which was exhibited last year, the price 300 guineas.—

Calcott saw the Prince of Wales at the Opera on Saturday last & thought He looked thin & broken, and that His countenance was the reverse of chearful; His brows Knit, & He did not seem to pay any attention to what was passing on the stage; & went out of the Box & returned several times.—Sir John Leicester, who is one of the Princes adherents says, that if the Princess does, as she has threatened, publish the report of the Commissioners, the Prince will publish everything relating to Her conduct.—I asked what that could be? I had no doubt that everything had been brought forward that could be adduced, as it had been evident how strong a desire there had been to criminate Her.—He sd. the Prince had little to look upon with satisfaction, His conduct not having insured Him popularity or ground for agreeable reflection.

Wilkie and Teniers

We dined [at Mr. Phipps's] abt. ½ past 6.—After dinner Lord Mulgrave led the conversation to Painting, & little else was talked of before we went to Coffee. He described a picture which Wilkie is now painting for him "*The Rent Day*", and sd. it wd. surpass that of the "*Blind Fiddler*" which He had painted for Sir George Beaumont. He sd. He believed Wilkie wd. go beyond Teniers, Ostade & all who had preceded Him, as He not only gave exquisitely the ordinary expressions of the human countenance but those of thought & abstraction.—He sd. that He had made an agreement with Wilkie to have all his studies & sketches for whatever pictures He may hereafter paint, and will furnish a room with them at Mulgrave Castle, to preserve them & will endeavour to educate His Son to posess a proper taste for them.—He sd. that *Wilkie, Jackson, & Haydon*, now associate together constantly,—dine together somewhere for a shilling or eighteen pence & afterwards go to the Academy to study.—Wilkie & Jackson both appear to have a high opinion of the ability and judgment of Haydon.

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* See Vols. II. and III.

CHAPTER XXX

1807

Lord Mulgrave

March 24.—Jackson* was brought to Lord Mulgrave† by a Dissenting Clergyman who frequently visits His Lordship.—At that time, abt. 5 years ago, Jackson was at *Whitby* 2 or 3 miles from Mulgrave Castle, where He painted miniatures very badly, but showed talent in sketching likenesses on paper. His Lordship finding something abt. Him that was agreeable became His Patron, & caused Him to come to London, & afterwards got permission from Lord Carlisle for him to copy pictures at Castle Howard where He was five months. He remarked that He is disposed to be indolent, but has still strong hopes that He will distinguish Himself.—He is of a very ingenuous nature, warm in speaking of the professional merit of his friends & quite free from jealousy, His praises having no qualifying alloy.

Lord Mulgrave spoke of process[es] in painting and gave His opinion against a *glazing system.* He thought the true way would be to attain as much as possible of the effect intended by what is called fair painting, and when that has been done to refine & add with glazing tints whatever may be wanting to make the effect complete.

Political Matters

At tea I sat next to Lord Mulgrave & had a great deal of conversation with him. Genl. Phipps came in from the House of Commons & some conversation took place respecting the present state of political matters, a new administration being now forming.—I expressed to Lord Mulgrave my surprise at Lord Grenville having so risqued his situation, after the proof He had of the King's mind upon the Catholic question. He sd. that as Lord Grenville while in opposition had moved a question upon that subject, He supposed He now had wished to answer in some degree the expectation of the Catholics by introducing the proposal of enabling Catholics & Dissenters of every description to hold the highest situations in the army.—He sd. the motion had been made by Lord Howick certainly without His Majesty's concurrence, & a strong declaration of the King against it, had caused the Ministers to agree to withdraw it, but His Majesty required from them a *pledge that they wd. not again bring it forward;* this they refused to give; and avowed to hold themselves at liberty to bring it forward whenever it might appear to them adviseable so to do.—I told His Lordship that some people were of opinion, from the rashness of the measure, that Lord Grenville sought the occasion as it wd. cause His withdrawing from Office. He dissented from this opinion, & being satisfied that Lord Grenville had no such wish.—

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† See Index, Vols. II. and III.

The Ablest Man

I noticed the great friendship which had subsisted between Lord Grenville and *Lord Wellesley*, and asked how that would operate between them if the latter shd. now come into Office. He replied that there had been great friendship between them from their youth, but that Lord Grenville had not since Lord Wellesley's return from India, shewn a disposition to promote His being employed.—Of the effect of a Change of Administration His Lordship seemed to have no unpleasant apprehension. He said that as to *ability* that now forming would be stronger than the ex-administration. He sd. Mr. Perceval is the ablest man in the House of Commons.—I asked Him what Mr. Canning wd. be. He sd. He had been mentioned as to be first Lord of the Admiralty. I asked what then wd. Lord Melville be appointed to? He sd. He understood that Lord Melville is not to hold an Office at least at present, but that Mr. Dundass His Lordships Son, is to have an appointment.—He thought it wd. have been better judged to appoint Lord Melville at once, as His experience & ability are well known,—and that after such *an acquittal* as He had had, when the government influence was in the hands of those who moved the prosecution of him, there could be no sufficient reason for hesitating to appoint Him now to a situation of responsibility.—

Girtin the Artist

Lord Mulgrave asked me to call upon Him to see a portrait which Jackson is painting of one of his Lordships daughters.—His Lordship spoke much of His own delight in Landscape scenery, & how great His pleasure is in passing through His walks and grounds, & opening & rendering more tasteful & perfect the various views & scenes at Mulgrave Castle.—He never wishes to come to town & only does come [when] occasions require it.—He spoke with much regard of the memory of *Girtin* the Artist,* who was with Him a little time at Mulgrave Castle. He thought Him a good natured open dispassioned man.—He then laboured under Symptoms of an Asthma which not long afterwards killed Him. Girtin having a desire to carry to *Paris* a *Panorama view of* London with a view to exhibit it there, Lord Mulgrave procured Him a

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III., and "Thomas Girtin's Water-Colours," by Randall Davies, 1924.

Passport; but when He arrived at Paris He was not permitted to exhibit it.

Coll. & Mrs. Welsh came in the evening. He is now a Candidate for the East India direction. I noticed to Lord Mulgrave the interesting expression of Mrs. Welsh's countenance; which He said was beautiful & very remarkably interesting. She is sister to Lady Mulgrave.—(ci-devant, Miss Makins).

A Famous Editor

March 25.—Lawrence finds the general sentiment in favor of a change of Ministry.—Perry,* of the Morning Chronicle has resigned His Office of Secretary to one of the Boards of Commissioners of accounts. The salary was £600 a year. Lord Grenville signified to him that He might retain it; meaning that appointments of that description wd. not be affected by a change of Ministry. But Perry felt the daily attendance from Eleven to four tedious,—and also that He shd. be embarassed in conducting His newspaper. His wife was also against His continuing in that situation.—

Art and Naval Matters

March 28.—Lord Mulgrave I called on at 10 oClock & found Captn. Moorsum† & Wilkie there. The former was writing, being appointed Private Secretary to His Lordship who on Thursday last was appointed First *Lord of the Admiralty*.—Wilkie was examining Specimens of *Carpetting* wanting a piece to paint from in His picture of "*The Rent Day*."—Lord Mulgrave shewed me a picture by Vanderneer, with which He was much delighted: a fine picture; also one by Salvator Rosa, & others.—After looking at the pictures I got into conversation with Captn. Moorsum, while His Lordship transacted business in another room, meaning to go with us to His Brothers, Mr. Phipps, to see a picture painted for Him by Moysey.‡ Captn. Moorsum said something respecting the change of Ministry, and we both expressed our surprise at the conduct of Lords Grenville & Howick.§

He told me that at Naval Courts Martial the decission is by a *Majority* of *one or more*. That when the Court retire to decide upon a trial a question is put whether the charge has been proved, beginning with the *Junior Officer* & proceeding to the others the Senior Officer being the last called upon.—When a majority has decided, all the Officers sign it so that it appears to have been a unanimous decission, & must remain so, with out *Parliament* shd. require the Members to declare & explain.

Sir George Beaumont called upon me in the afternoon being just come to town.—He looked pretty well, but complained of debility through the Winter.—He told me His Mother was born in 1718 & has only to complain of being a little deaf. He said there did not appear to be anything likely to prevent Her living till 1818.—He had called at Wilkie's and saw His picture of "*The Rent Day*" & did not appear to me to be so much struck with it as with His former works, He asked me "whether Wilkie did not seem to be finishing very much"; signifying by it, *too much*.—

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* See Index, Vols. I. and II.

† See Index, Vol. III.

‡ See Index, Vol. III.

§ See Index, Vol. III.

CHAPTER XXXI

1807

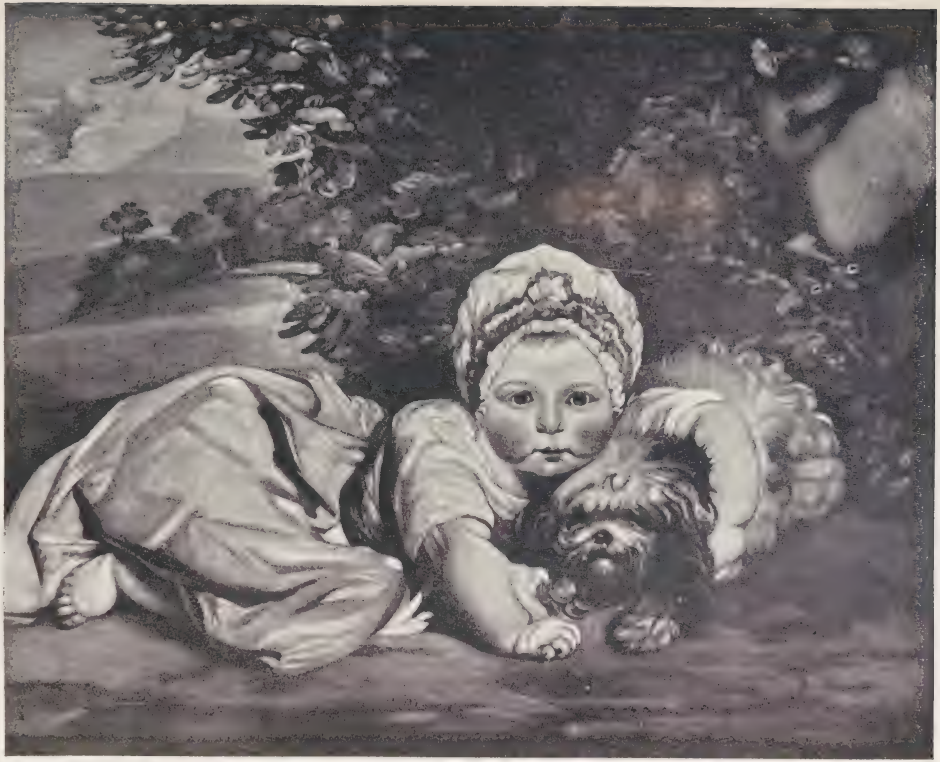
Franco-Russian War

March 29.—Easter Sunday.—Mr. Angerstein's I dined at, the party small.—Mr. Angerstein talked a good deal abt. the War between the Russians & French. He said General Bennigsen who commanded the Russians against Buonaparte at the battle of *Eylau*, is a native of Hanover and abt. 63 years of age. He was Page to George 2nd.—He remained on Horseback all night on the 7th of February previous to the Battle of the 8th. though the weather was most inclement. On the evening of the 8th. after the Battle was over & the enemy repulsed everywhere, He with those about Him fell upon their knees & gave thanks to God for the Victory.

The Cossacks have annoyed the French unremittingly. They were carried to the War with their minds inflamed against their enemy. Their General on his march through Russia bought as many prints of Buonaparte as He could obtain & distributed them among His Corps, telling them " That was the man He wanted."—

The Grand Duke Constantine is inveterate against the French ; but there is a French party in Petersburgh who endeavour to influence the Emperor through the Emperor's *Mother*.—He gave them a proof of His feeling towards them by selecting their *leader* to be the Bearer of the Order of *St. Andrew*, the Highest Order of Russia, to General Bennigsen after the battle of Eylau.

Mr. Angerstein told me that He was born at Petersburgh. He appeared to be very well pleased with the change of Administration, & assured us that He knew the Prince of Wales disapproved of the Catholic question having been brought forward.—He said that He was well acquainted with Lord Nelson, and had heard him express a hope that *He should die in battle*. After tea He shewed us a large drawing made for Him by Havil with which He was much pleased. West said that a style of drawing had been practised in this Country such as had not been seen in any other, and that with Thomas Sandby it originated.



Princess Sophia Matilda of Gloucester when a child

By Sir Joshua Reynolds. From a print in the British Museum.

[To face p. 107

March 31.—The two first Numbers of Prince Hoare's* publication "*The Artist*" were not much approved; but Hoppner's letter in the 3d. Number is thought better. Longman & Rees in Paternoster Row, have issued proposals for a publication of Prints from celebrated Pictures, the Prints to be coloured, & accompanied with Letter Press, the whole to be under the management of *Ottley* & *Tresham* [R.A.]; & it is sd. the former is to have 1000 guineas for His trouble, & the latter 500.†—This work will militate against a publication of the same nature carrying on by Miller, the Bookseller of Bond St. & the Revd. Edwd. Foster.‡—Calcott has finished a Landscape, an *evening*, of which Thomson speaks highly, & recommended it to Sir John Leicester who has bought it.—

Princess Sophia's Kindness

April 1.—Mrs. Wheatley§ attends the Princess Sophia of Gloucester twice a week to teach Her drawing. They send a *Sociable* [carriage] *for Her*, & treat Her with great kindness.—They are very charitable & considerate. The Princess Sophia last week noticed to Mrs. Wheatley the death of Her Mother & observed that she might be required to be at some expence upon the occasion & gave Her £10 on acct.—They often employ Mrs. Wheatley to distribute charity for then, & always with a desire *that it shd. not be known.*—They are greatly attached to the *King*, and are well pleased with the change of Administration, as they consider the new Ministers to be the King's friends.

The Duke of Cambridge having lately on some occasion spoke in the House of Lords, it was observed in a newspaper that the Duke was always a supporter of the King. The Duchess|| upon reading it said "She did not know that the King wanted any support."—They are attached to the Princess of Wales, & visit, & correspond with Her.—The Prince still insists upon further investigation.

Mr. Troward¶ has sent all His pictures except His celebrated picture of *Our Saviour* by Leonardo da Vinci, to Philips to be sold. He gave

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† "British Gallery of Pictures," published 1818, at £12 12s. Proofs on India paper, £25 4s. Coloured and mounted, 150 guineas.

‡ "British Gallery of Engravings," London, 1807-13, £2 2s. each. Large paper, £3 13s. 6d.

§ See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

|| The Duchess of Gloucester.

¶ Troward, who lived in Pall Mall, like Buchanan, was regularly engaged in picture-dealing. The collection numbered only fourteen pictures, but they were of good quality, and some of them realised comparatively high prices. Lord Kinnaird paid £1,575 for "A Bacchanalian," which was considered to be the finest Nicolas Poussin in the country. "The Son of God Creating the Universe," said to have been painted by Leonardo da Vinci for François Premier of France, and a portrait of François himself, also ascribed to Leonardo, fetched together £1,680. The total was £6,418 13s. See Vol. II., page 267 and *note*.

£3500 for 6 pictures, but expects much more for them. He disposes of them from a consideration of His family of 6 Children, but probably has a further motive from having engaged in a great *Soap making scheme* to be carried on at *Vauxhall*, which will require £200,000 to be laid out before anything can be gained.—

Canning " In the Sky "

Lawrence also called.—West was with him today to see His picture of Sir Francis Baring &c. & told Him he had made an advance in the Art. Sir Francis sat yesterday & spoke of the New Administration as being men of Ability. He thought is was probable that on acct. of His age, and habits of business, that Mr. Perceval wd. take the lead in the House of Commons. He sd. Canning is a man of talents, but "*is sometimes in the Sky*".—Mr. Wall, Sir Francis's son in law told Lawrence today that the *government of Russia complained of the coldness of our late government in respect of assistance to carry on the War*, and that Buonaparte wd. probably avail himself of that feeling & endeavour to make peace with them.—

Lord Howick is considered to be the principal cause of pressing the King on the Catholic business.

Turner's Early Patron

Machell sd. the opinion in their part of Yorkshire was that if Mr. Lascelles had stood the contest at the last Election Wilberforce wd. have been obliged to give way.—Fawkes* had so distinguished himself by His Oratory at a former meeting at York that vast expectations were formed of him, that He wd. have equalled Pitt or Fox; but Machell observed it might have been a speech prepared.—

Constable called to desire me to call to see 2 pictures prepared by Him for the Exhibition, in one of which He thought He had got something original.—He spoke again of Calcott's large Landscape & said it was apparently too much a work of art & labour, not an *effusion*.—His smaller pictures He thought better in that respect.

C. Offley came to desire me to call on Corbold† to see a picture "The Bard" from Gray, painted for Offley. The weather being bad I declined going out on which He went to Corbold who soon returned with Him & brought the picture which I was much pleased with.—Corbold told me that He was a pupil of *Maris*‡ *&* resided with Him in Glanville Street, in the year 1773 in the House in which I at that time resided. Maris came from Lincolnshire, & was pupil to Arthur Devis* whose daughter he married.

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* W. R. Fawkes, of Farnley, Turner's early patron. See Index, Vol. I.

† Richard Corbould (1757-1831) painted in oil and water colours portraits, landscapes, and historical pictures, but was best known as a designer of books. Two of his family, Henry and George, also were artists.

‡ R. Marris, who contributed landscapes to the Royal Academy between 1780 and 1784.

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* Arthur William Devis (1763-1822), painter of portraits and historical subjects. While on a voyage as draughtsman in the service of the H.E.I. Coy., the *Antelope* (Captain Wilson) was wrecked off the Pelew Islands. The crew landed on one of the islands and built a small ship, and on the way to Macao Devis was shot at from the coast, one arrow entering his body, the other his cheek. The latter wound permanently injured his jaw. He exhibited sixty-five pictures at the Royal Academy between 1787 and 1821. After the Battle of Trafalgar he went on board the *Victory* and painted the "Death of Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, K.B., in the Cockpit of H.M.S. *Victory*, 21st October, 1805." This picture is in Greenwich Hospital. Devis is buried in St. Giles's Churchyard.

CHAPTER XXXII

1807

Reynolds and Burke

April 3.—Lawrence I called on & sat with Him while He gave the last finishing touches to His picture.—He told me Carlisle had called upon Him this morn'g & sd. *it was all over with Opie:* that He had first complaints which appeared to be Rheumatick, but there now seemed to be a complication of disorders, & that He had a complaint in His bladder. He sd. He hourly grew worse, & it must be a change of which there was no prospect, that could recover Him.—He afterwards said, "*He will die.*" Lawrence also sd. that Tijon the frame maker, had called on Him and sd. that He had seen Opie's servant, who sd. He did not believe His Master wd. recover, though the Physicians gave His mistress hopes.—

Lawrence I dined with, and saw His picture of Sir Francis Baring &c. nearly finished.—He told me that Ralph Kirtley, Sir Joshua Reynolds's old servant, had informed him that from the time that Sir Joshua found He must die, He appeared to wish that no one should visit Him: but He could not refuse to see Mr. Burke. He lay whole nights seemingly witht. sleep, but silent, except that after a long interval in the night He wd. hastily call out *Ralph* as if to assure himself that He was not alone.

Miss Lee,* late of Bath, came in. She told me she & Her Sister have taken a House at St. Avan's 2 miles from Chepstow, upon the heights near *Piercefield:* That Mr. Wells the present owner of that place is very kind as a neighbour and allows them free access to His Park. He gave £95,000 for that place. He has 2 Sons and a daughter. The daughter is as *fair* as Her Mother, but the eldest son *brown*, and the 2nd Son dark as his father.†

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* Miss Sophia Lee. See Index, Vol. III.

† In a reference to Piercefield in September, 1803, Farington says that Mr. Wells "is a creole of very deep colour, but Miss Wells [his sister] is fair." Piercefield, which the Diarist characterised as "a specimen of very bad taste in architecture," was built by Humphry Morrice, passed to a Mr. Smith, who failed; was bought by Colonel Wood and sold by him to Mr. Wells. That gentleman was very "exact about admission to see the grounds. Every person who goes for that purpose is required to write His or Her name, and the book is carried to him every Saturday night, from which He transcribes all the names into a book which He keeps in His own possession."

April 5.—Northcote this day, in *the Artist*, published a letter witht. *His Initials*, upon the evil consequences of Persons becoming hasty Patrons to unproved abilities, thereby bringing forward young men whose early efforts end in disappointment.

Payne Knight had seen his [Westall's] picture of the sleeping Nymph & advised Him to ask 300 guineas for it.—Westall sd. He proposed to ask 200 gs.—Knight sd. when an Artist painted a picture on speculation He had [the] right to ask a price different from what He made the rule for works ordered.—If He made a lucky hit He had a fair claim to an extraordinary reward.—Lord Oxford told Westall that Knight's income does not exceed £4000 a year, & Knight told Westall that He does not save anything.—

April 6.—Lady Beaumont much disapproved of Hoppner's letter to Mr. Charles Greville* & thought the *Fly Flap* very well written—Daniell did not concur with Her in sentiments.

Marchant [R.A.] called to desire me to procure invitations to the Academy dinner for Mr. Rose & Mr. Bankes.†—Mr. Bankes has had the misfortune to lose His eldest Son a fine young man 21 yrs. of age. His Father at His desire, had bought Him a Commission in the Army, & He was going to Sicily to join His regiment some months ago in the Blanche, Captn. Rankin, which Ship struck upon a rock & was lost. Many were saved & He was intreated to come into the boat but refused saying, He had considered it, & thought it most safe to remain in the Ship,—The boat got safe to shore.—Mr. Bankes has two other Sons & two or three daughters. He stood for the County of Dorset at the last Election against Mr. Portman,* but lost it, it is sd. owing to his not having declared Himself sooner. It cost Him £7000 & Mr. Portman £10,000.—Mr. Bankes was extremely affected by the loss of His Son; it appeared to make a stronger impression on him than on Mrs. Bankes.—

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* The "Fly Flap," by C. F. G., consisted of a criticism of the first number of the *Director*, edited by T. F. Dibdin. Mr. Frank Rutter, editor of a little volume entitled "Essays on Art by John Hoppner, R.A." (1908), in re-publishing Hoppner's reply, suggests that C. F. G. was the Right Hon. Charles Grey, afterwards the second Earl Grey, whereas he was Charles Francis Greville, second son of the first Earl of Warwick. Greville died unmarried in 1809, aged 60 years. A Fellow of the Royal Society and F.A.S., he was acquainted with Hoppner. His collection of pictures and other works of art was sold in 1810 and realised fully £5,000.

† George Rose, Vice-President of the Board of Trade in the Portland Ministry. Henry Bankes (1757-1834) was a politician and author, and grandson of Sir John Bankes, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in the time of Charles I. From 1780 to 1826 he sat for the Close Borough of Corfe Castle. In the later year he was elected for the County of Dorset, which he represented until 1831, when he was defeated. He was a Trustee of the British Museum, and wrote "A Civil and Constitutional History of Rome, from the Foundation to the Age of Augustus." His third son, George Bankes (1788-1856), was the last of the Cursitor Barons of the Exchequer, and entered Parliament in 1816 as his father's colleague for the family Borough of Corfe Castle, which he represented until 1823. He was the author of "The Story of Corfe Castle and of Many Who Have Lived There," and of "Brave Dame Mary." On the death of his elder brother, William John Bankes (in 1855), the traveller, he succeeded to the family estates.

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* Edward Berkeley Portman, of Bryanston, and Orchard Portman, Dorset. His son (1799-1888) of the same name sat for Dorset from 1823 to 1832, and for Marylebone from December, 1832, to March, 1833. Four years later he was created Baron Portman of Orchard Portman, and in 1873 was advanced in the Peerage as Viscount Portman of Bryanston. Portman and Bryanston Squares and Orchard Street, Marylebone, get their names from this family.

CHAPTER XXXIII

1807

A Famous Painting by Turner

April 7.—Westall called. The pictures &c. sent for Exhibition were examined yesterday. Turner's large picture, a Sea piece* is inferior to His former productions, but a small picture of the inside of a Farrier's Shop, is a very clever picture.—Calcott's large picture an Upright, an even'g, is of a better colour,—but half of the Sky might be taken away & the picture wd. be better for it.—Philips' pictures are very indifferent, a half length of Lord Thurlow is the best.—Woodforde seems to improve.—Some water colour drawings, & Sketches with black lead pencil, by Mrs. Charles Long, were much admired for their taste & freedom.—

An Inferior Performance

A large picture by *Manfredi*†, an Italian Artist, containing several portraits as large as life, proved to be a miserable performance. This Artist, it seems, came to England with a high opinion of his powers. He was employed by a Mercht. to whom He had recommendations, to paint his family which He has thus done. He surprised the Mercht. by demanding 1000 guineas for it. The Mercht. sd. He wd. give the highest price given to our English Artists, but demurred at the demand made.—On this Manfredi lowered His price to 500 gs.—It is debated in Council whether to keep the picture or not, but after all that had been sd. of Him, it was judged most prudent to exhibit the picture; but that the sanction of the Academy might not cause the Mercht. to be imposed on, it was resolved that a letter shd. be written to Him by the Secretary, informing Him that the Council thought it a work of very inferior quality and were only induced to allow it to be exhibited, from a desire to show to Foreigners all the attention in their power.—A letter to this effect was accordingly written by Westall at the desire of the Council to be copied by Richards.—

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* The "Sun Rising Through Vapour," which is one of the best of the pictures in Turner's first transition stage, was exchanged with Sir John Leicester (Lord De Tabley) for No. 476, now in the Tate Gallery, and was bought back by Turner from Lord De Tabley and bequeathed by the artist to the nation on condition that it and "Dido Building Carthage" (498) were hung between Claude's "Marriage of Isaac and Rebecca" (12) and "Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba" (14). The four pictures are placed in this order in the National Gallery.

† The picture by B. Manfredi, who is not mentioned in Bryan's Dictionary, was "A Lady and Her Family" (307). Besides that group, his "Galatea" (142) also was hung in the 1807 Academy.

Opie Read Every Book

Williams said He met a gentleman & Lady at Bath who were natives of Cornwall, & had near the place where Opie was born*, a genteel House, in which they had a Library. While Opie was a youth they admitted Him to it & believe He read every book in it. He wd. read the whole days, & frequently in fine weather lay upon the grass Hours together so employed.—Williams has his family in town, but has hired rooms in Bond St, from *Slade* to *paint in* only, & pays 70 guineas a yr. for them. †

Turner's Conceit

Lawrence I called on & found Mr. West there. He told us that Calcott seemed to be in danger of falling into *manner*, *&* wanted *middle tint* in his pictures which defficiency caused His large picture to appear by any other than *broad day light* a mass of *dark* upon a mass of *light*, wanting the sweetness and agreeableness of medium tints.—His upright landscape was of a better colour.—Turner has greatly fallen off in a large Sea piece, —He seems to have run wild with conceit.—

Mr. and Mrs. West sent this morn'g to Opie's & were answered that He seemed to be better, from some symptoms.—Lawrence having left the room, I asked West how [he] liked His picture of Sir Francis Baring &c. He replied in the warmest terms of approbation. I sd. that picture would not be *rivalled*. "Oh ! sd. He, That picture, & His Circular one exhibited last year, puts them all at a distance."

Moral Virtue

Mackintosh,‡ the present Chief Justice at Bombay, was mentioned by us. He sd. He seemed to have very little feeling of the beauty of moral virtue. At His outset at Edinburgh, He had made himself remarkable by His expressions of ridicule & contempt for revealed religion. He afterwards in His Lectures delivered in London, spoke with reverence on this subject, which drew upon [him] many reproaches from those who had formerly attended to His other opinions. During the French revolution, at least at the early part of it, He was supposed to be posessed with French principles, & was also a *Foxite :* but His self interest, it was believed,

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* John Opie was born at St. Agnes, about seven miles from Truro. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Solomon Williams was born in Dublin, where he studied at the Academy before going to Italy. He was a member of the Bologna Academy, an exhibitor at the Royal Academy and British Institution, and a foundation member of the Royal Hibernian Academy. He died on August 2, 1824.

‡ Sir James Mackintosh. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

J. M. W. Turner

From a drawing by T. Phillip in the National Portrait Gallery

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caused Him to abandon those prejudices,—and He became an Advocate for the opposite opinions in politics.—While a Foxite He had become intimate with Dr. Parr. Happening one day to dine at Sir Willm. Milners in company with the Doctor, *Quigley* the associate of Roger O Connor [Irish revolutionary], was spoken of & his punishment for Treason. Mackintosh said Quigley seemed to be a Character of the worst kind. Upon which the Doctor [Parr] replied, " No, Jemmy, not of the worst kind; He was an *Irishman*, & might have been a *Scotsman*;—He was a *Priest*, & might have been a *Lawyer*; He was true to *His cause*, & might have been an *Apostate*, *Jemmy*."—Mackintosh in conversation disapproving the conduct of one of his acquaintance, did it upon the ground of its *impolicy*, as *to the morality of it* that *is nothing*, said He.—This being remarked to one of His acquaintance, He said, " *That is Mackintosh*."

Titian's Bacchus and Ariadne

Lawrence called in the even'g in raptures on having seen a picture by Titian at Buchannan's* in Oxendon St.—the subject Bacchus & Ariadne.† He described it to be the finest piece of colouring that He had ever beheld for splendour, force, & freshness. He said the Titians at the Marquiss of Staffords could not be mentioned with it. The colours of it Blue, Green, red and yellow. The landscape part being pushed to the extremity of colour in depth & feelings. In one corner Titian seems after He had otherways finished the picture, to have dashed a piece of bright yellow drapery, on which is a golden Vase, & this part alone by its effect proves it from the hand of Titian. The yellow colour used is such as we have not, Naples yellow wd. be weak to it.—There are in parts of the trees evident marks of the touch of the Pallet Knife.—Lord Kinnaird has bought the picture for 3000 guineas.—

Lawrence on his way to me called upon West & informed him of the picture.—He told me He now saw He must discharge a colour from His Pallet, Terra di Siena, which He sd. is an impure colour, & has often led Him off from that purply freshness which shd. be attempted & caused him to fall into *heavy* & *leathery* colouring. He said that when He first saw His Circular picture in the Exhibition last year, He felt that it was too much upon the yellowish brown and was heavy.—

Giorgione's Feeling

April 8.—Buchannan's in Oxendon St. I went to with West & Lawrence & saw the picture of Bacchus & Ariadne by Titian.—West said it was painted when Titian was abt. 50 years of age, & full of *Giorgione's* feeling of colour.—At a later period Titian aimed more at grandeur & character, but at this period His mind was occupied by a desire to produce the utmost splendour of colouring.—He traced out the *ground* on which it was painted, & shewed that it was upon a ground of bright yellow, glazed down to a tone to suit the intended colour of his picture. But the whole *from the beginning* was worked with *thin colours*, through which the *light within* as He called it, proceeding from the first ground, gave the lustre which was so extraordinary. He said whoever should attempt to copy that picture, unless He proceeded in that way, would make nothing more than a heavy work of it.—

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* William Buchanan, celebrated picture dealer and author of " Memoirs of Painting."

† Lord Kinnaird, who paid Buchanan, the dealer, 3,500 guineas for the " Bacchus and Ariadne," wanted 5,000 guineas for the picture. The National Gallery paid 3,000 guineas for it, one-third of 9,000, which sum included the price given by the nation for " Christ Appearing to Peter " by Annibale Caracci and the " Bacchanalian Dance " by N. Poussin.

He said the picture was really in fine preservation, but it was mortifying to see that *Burch* the picture cleaner had *been putting colour upon it*, in many parts. Upon the Sky with Ultramarine & had stippled colour upon parts of the flesh. He said if the picture was His He wd. take off the whole of that *Burch had done*, for He knew He was the person that had done it in order to make the picture appear more showy ; He knew *His hand*.—He sd. it ought to bear a price like the fine Claudes, 4 or 5000 guineas.—

The late Lord Kinnaird who was a man remarkable for an avaricious disposition, had the following lines put on the gateway of His Park—

Here's a Park witht. Deer,
A Cellar without Beer
A Kitchen without Cheer ;
Lord Kinnaird lives here.

Sir George [Beaumont] was full of *Wilkie's performance* " The Blind Musician [Fiddler] " & hoped it wd. not be hung in the Exhibition near any " Boiled Lobsters " i.e. glaring pictures.—He seemed to be disatisfied with Owen's cold expressions abt. Wilkie. Owen had sd. that Wilkie imitated the Flemish masters, & signified that He ought to attempt something more.—

CHAPTER XXXIV

1807

Death of Opie

April 8.—Opie's door I stopped at & met Prince Hoare, & the *Apothecary*, who said Opie's pulse was better this morn'g, but that He had yet no *passage through Him*, & was partly delirious, & partly dozing, He said He might continue to live 3 or 4 days, or might go off suddenly; but did not appear to entertain any expectation of his recovery.—Prince Hoare told me that it had not at last been ascertained what His complaint was. It was thought to be in the *bladder*, but was not so; the physicians who first attended him judged it to be *inflammatory*, & bled him & purged him. Dr. Alderson, Mrs. Opie's father, came from Norwich & gave a different opinion. He thought it arose out of a *morbid habit* & tended to *putridity*.—Mrs. Opie [Amelia Opie, the poetess] distracted at this difference of opinion called in Dr. Vaughan, who agreed with those who first judged of the case, & Dr. Pitcairne & Dr. Bailie being also consulted differed from Dr. Alderson. Such was the sad uncertainty.

April 9.—At 9 oClock Thomson [R.A.] called looking very pale & distressed which I saw indicated the death of Poor Opie. This I signified & He began with a disposition to weeping to speak like one who blames himself on account of the coolness which had of late subsisted between him and Opie: but added, He trusted, that He had at this period done His duty by the attention He had paid to Opie.—I comforted Him by speaking of the unreasonableness of his blaming Himself on account of a little misunderstanding, as it was what human nature is perpetually liable to, while our natural infirmities continue, and might also be founded upon a reasonable cause. At the same [time] I said it was a natural consequence (where real affection had subsisted) when a final separation takes place, for the Survivor to regret that any interruption shd. ever have happened to suspend kindness & intercourse.—He then gave me the following acct.—

On Friday the 9th. of March, Opie was invited to dine with a Society called the *Irish Society* of which Harvey Combe is President [the Brewer and Lord Mayor]. It is held at a House in the City.—Opie went there &

found the room in which they dined large & cold, with a fire laid perhaps only an hour before the company came. He felt cold & uncomfortable during the entertainment & to warm himself probably drank a little more wine than He was accustomed to drink. The night proved very cold, with Snow, & He had to walk home; & that evening felt unwell from it. The next & following days, He was still more indifferent, & complained of a pain in his back, & in a little time of a *suppression of Urine.* Carlisle, the Surgeon, was applied to, who by the use of a *Catheter* drew off the Urine, & it was at first thought a *surgical* but soon appeared to be a *medical case.* Dr. Ash, a friend of Opie's, Son to the late celebrated Dr. Ash was called in, & there now appeared great disorder in the vessels abt. the groin, with so violent a pulsation, that it was feared a rupture wd. take place. On this acct. He was blooded. He appeared still to grow worse, & was confined to His bed. To the pain in his back & suppression of Urine were added pains in His lower limbs, & these symptoms caused it to be reported that He had the Rheumatism.

Doctors Differ

On Thursday, April 2nd, Dr. Alderson, father to Mrs. Opie came from Norwich, and that afternoon told Thomson, that whatever might be said or done, Opie never wd. recover. He differed from Dr. Ash in His opinion of the disorder, & considered it the effect of a morbid habit. Opie had been thought on the Thursday to be something better, but Dr. Alderson said that was nothing. Dr. Vaughan had before or was now called in, and agreed entirely with Dr. Ash as to the propriety of treating his case as had been done, and Doctors Pitcairne & Bailie also were added to the consultation and fully concurred in it.—Their attention was great, they all visited him twice a day.—He had been in a state of Delirium several days, with only slight intervals. His head was shaved & blistered, to relieve Him in that respect. There had been no passage through His bowels for a considerable time.—Carlisle a few days ago felt the lower part of the bowels & found them in a torpid state, the indent of *a pressure upon them remaining;* and they crackled like dry parchment.

Carlisle had for many days told Thomson that Opie wd. not recover. He spoke highly of Dr. Ash & sd. He knew more of Physic than any of the Professors.—Yesterday morning Opie's pulse was better, & Thomson calling upon Mrs. Opie, she smiled, & sd. " You do not know what I have heard of the consultation."—Thomson knew that she was deceived in what she supposed.—Dr. Ash told Thomson that it was not yet known where the real cause or seat of his disorder was; it might be owing to an intense cold which had fallen upon the spinal marrow.—Lately there had been an oozing from the back.—Last night the Physicians decided that all hope was gone, all the bad symptoms having increased. At 10 oClock Dr. Vaughan tenderly communicated to Mrs. Opie that if nothing more cd. be done, she might be assured that He wd. continue to be without pain. At half an Hour past 4 oClock this morning He died.

—Thomson heard him sometime before to groan heavily, but Carlisle said He was insensible & felt nothing.—

Thomson said that on hearing Opie was seriously ill He wrote to Him, offering that in case any of his pictures intended for Exhibition shd. require to have some little matter done to them He shd. be happy to give His assistance.

Blessed Him

On receiving this letter Opie desired to see him. He found Opie in bed who put out his hand to him and blessed Him. He desired him to do something to a picture of the Duke of Gloucester which Thomson promised to do.—On Friday last He took the picture into Opie's bed room & asked him what He wd. have done. Opie looked at it, but did not say anything & then turned and put out his hand & catched as if something was before him, and afterwards slided His hand under the pillow as if searching for something. He also spoke but in such a way as to shew Thomson that He was delirious.—Thomson did what was necessary to the picture and on Saturday sent it to the Exhibition & says it is one of Opie's best pictures.—Since that Time Thomson has been in constant attendance during the night, & administered medicines till He cd. no longer bear to do it, from the pain of seeing Opies sad state & witnessing His delirium. He had occasionally momentary recollections, & recognised persons, but it was only for a moment. Sometimes the delirium operated so violently that He would start up suddenly in his bed, so as to oblige those abt. Him to hold Him down,—and this at a time when his lower limbs were in such a state from the condition of his back &c. that He could not move witht. assistance.—Finally this case has baffled the sagacity of the most eminent medical men & it will not be known till His body has been opened which is to be done by Carlisle to-morrow at Eleven oClock, what was the real nature of his disorder.—

A Gross Feeder

Opie's mode of living was spoken of. He was very abstemious in respect of *wine*, but Dr. Alderson observed that He was a gross feeder; eating of *made dishes* in preference to *plain meat;* and eating pickles & high sauces or whatever of that kind was before him.—Carlisle sd. that shd. Opie's case appear upon opening the body to be what He supposes, it is a very singular case, only one instance of the kind being upon record, and that given by a Physician at Rome. An inflammation of the spinal membrance above the Os Coxcygus [*Coccygis*], which in its effect extended to the Brain and caused the Delirium.—

CHAPTER XXXV

1807

Cause of Opie's Death

April 10.—Carlisle came. He had this morning opened the body of Opie & found everything as He had expected it wd. be.—An inflammation upon the spine above the Os Coxygus [*Coccygis*],—an inflammation of the Brain, part of which was dissolved,—and 5 ounces of water in the Brain, whereas there ought not to have been more than half an ounce. There was also inflammation in the bowels.—The case was singular, & like that described by the Roman Physician.—It was incurable from the first,—but being inflammatory the principle which had been acted upon was right.—Had it been possible for Opie to have recovered He wd. have been for the remainder of his life an *Idiot.* Carlisle sd. that His skull was both externally & internally of a singular form.—

Carlisle observed that weak minded people have generally *small heads* and *thick skulls ;* and that very few, if any, very strong minded persons, those who have strong common sense, ever become *insane.* Upon dissecting the heads of great numbers who have died insane, the foregoing observations have been made.—

Opie's Fortune

April 11.—Thomson I dined with.—He told me that it was now ascertained that Opie died worth property to the amount of £12000, to the surprise of Mrs. Opie* who did not suppose Him to be worth more than £3000. Yet He had repeatedly sd. to Thomson " That He shd. starve." Yesterday in a dirty Cupboard a £50 & a £10 notes were found, & this morning among lumber in a Closet, an old rag in which there was 195 guineas in gold.—The posession of this property did not expand his mind, but He rather became more covetous. He wd. only allow Mrs. Opie to keep *one maid servant*, and He had generally an Invalid Man servant at low wages.

Dr. Alderson, Mrs. Opie's father was averse to Her marrying Him. In His first intercourse with Opie He formed an unfavourable opinion of Him.—At dinner there was a *dish* which was very good, and the

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* See Vols. I., II. and III.

Doctor having tasted would have had more, but Opie witht. regarding others, emptied the whole dish into his own plate. This the Doctor decided to be a proof of gross selfishness.—Mrs. Opie had at an early period of Her life somehow been impressed with a feeling that Opie was a very extraordinary man.—At a subsequent period when she saw him His figure & manner so little corresponded with the image in Her mind that Her admiration was suspended.

But after some intercourse His attention to Her & solicitation caused Her again to be influenced by His reputation for ability & she married Him.—Her Father upon their marriage agreed to allow Him 200 guineas a year. She was 26 or 7 years of age. By Her Novels & poems she has also acquired money. The last year she recd. £400, and upon the rect. of this money Opie consented to have his House in part repaired & made more respectable.—But Opie concealed from Her his real circumstances; and was very parsimonious in His allowance to Her, & in all that related to Her expences.—His mind had nothing liberal in it. He was sordid & selfish. At a time when from the fortune He had made & by His professional practise, He had a considerable income, He gave in to the Commissioners of the Income Tax only £50 *as professional income* and £150 a year as *His funded property;* and it was remarkable that the Commissioners admitted the report.—

Opie's Art

Thomson [said] His professional power was [at] its greatest height about 14 years ago, Nine years ago He fell off; but for sometime past has painted better pictures, though His conceptions have been common placed, and His taste of colouring much inferior to what it was at an earlier period of his life. He agreed with me in thinking that it did not seem probable that Opie wd. ever paint better than He had done & that as an Artist He had gone his full length.—

Thomson became pupil to Opie in August 1791 being at that period 17 years old. He paid 100 guineas for that year; and Opie lived then so pleasantly with Him, & on so equal a footing, as to make the time pass very agreeably. At the expiration of that year Opie told him that if He pleased He might remain another year witht. being at any expence. Thomson only went to Opie's *to study.*—He also attended the Royal Academy & there became acquainted with several Students viz: Owen,—Turner,—Shee,—Oliver &c.—He had in the year 1788 obtained a premium at St. Omer's in France, for a drawing.—Before He went to Opie it had been proposed to His Father to place Him with Graham (now at Edinburgh) who demanded 300 guineas.—

Thomson saw the present Emperor of Germany at Vienna. He is a little mean-looking man; but is sd. to have a very good disposition. The Archduke is also a little & mean-looking man, but has abilities greatly superior to those of his Brother.—

The Blind Fiddler

[Owen R.A.] sd. Wilkie's " Blind [Fiddler] Musician," was vastly superior to His work of last year " The Village Politicians," and really justified even Sir George Beaumont's extravagant praise.

April 12.—Wilkie I met on my way home. He was much gratified on my telling Him His picture was placed upon the Chimney Board. I asked Him how He went on with His picture of " *the Rent day* " He sd. *slowly*. I sd. I concluded He wd. not now see much of Lord Mulgrave as He is first Lord of the Admiralty. But He told me His Lordship had been with him several times since He had that appointment & had not at all slackened in thinking abt. the arts.

CHAPTER XXXVI

1807

Vanity of Mrs. Opie

April 12.—Northcote I called on.—He hoped the Council of the Academy wd. hear no more respecting Opie's Funeral. All that had been proposed arose out of the *vanity* of Mrs. Opie, which far exceeded even that of Mrs. Cosway,—He remarked on the proposal of having Opie interred in St. Pauls, three days before He died, for such a wish Thomson had communicated to Owen at that time, but it originated with Mrs. Opie.—It was surprising that it shd. have done so, as most persons cd. not have borne to think of his funeral while He was living.—West now is upon His guard respecting it. He says that shd. any further application be made it will then be a matter for the Council to debate.—Northcote did not think Opie posessed more than £200 a year.—

Fuseli's Impatience

Yesterday after dinner He had a contest with Fuseli who insisted that all modern artists, even Raphael, were weak in the power of *giving expression* to their figures. Northcote held a contrary opinion. He said the discriminations of character were better [given] by the moderns but by the ancients as far as we know of their work, little of that kind was to be seen. Fuseli mentioned the Laocoon. Northcote said, That *was a man upon the Rack*; it was one in the extreme of bodily distress. Fuseli named the *Niobe.* Northcote sd. that was a similar instance.—The *Quoiter*, He said, was one of the best instances of expression that was to be found in the Antique.—Fuseli became impatient, & left the room.

Hobbema

Sir George Beaumont told Hearne yesterday that having spoken to Payne Knight of Edwd. Coxe's Hobbima* which is to be sold this week, Knight said Hobbima was a fine painter, but He did not now feel so much interested abt. His works as formerly, *as we have now painters coming forward in this country*, who much surpass Hobbima.

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* This Hobbema was a "Wooded Landscape with Cottages and Figures," Number 21 in Smith's Catalogue Raisonné. In Coxe's sale on April 23, 1807, it fetched £588. His fine collection of 70 pictures was sold by Peter Coxe, the auctioneer, who had been a collector for thirty years, and purchased from the Calonne collection, the Orleans, Sir William Hamilton, Laborde, and others.

April 13.—Thomson's I went to at ½ past 3 oClock, & met Sir John St. Aubyn, Mr. Penwarne, & Prince Hoare.

Opie's Origin

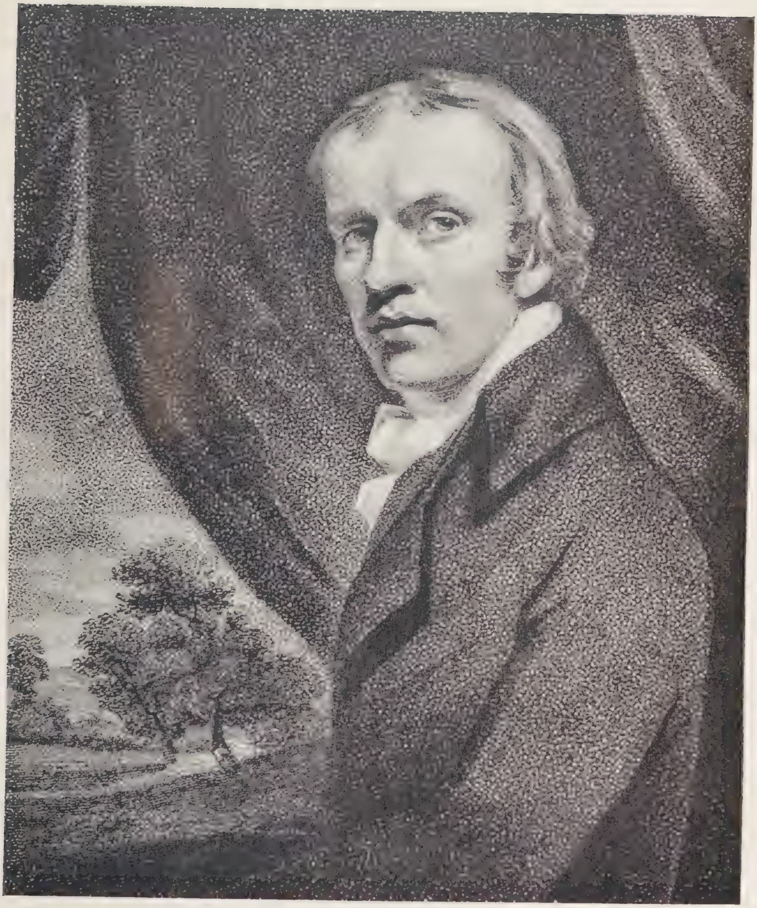
Mr. Penwarne sd. that Opie was born at St. Agnes, a village in Cornwall, abt. 4 or 5 miles from Truro. That His Father was not in so low a situation as has been reported. That He was a Carpenter & Joiner in a decent situation of Life. Opie's education must have been very limited, as good schools were not established in that part, but He was taught to read & write. The first time that He shewed an inclination to drawing has been thus related by His Sister, He was acquainted with a young man of the name of Mark Oates who is now a Captn. of Artillery. —Opie happened to call upon Him & saw a drawing of a Butterfly made by Him, was seized with a desire to attempt to make one like it. In this [he] succeeded so well as to become quite eager to make further attempts in drawing. His Father kept a Horse on which Opie rode to Truro & purchased some pencils & colours.

Penwarne told me that Opie's Sister had informed Him that Opie was at ten years of age a very good Arethmitician, & at that early age He set up a sort of school, & taught writing and accounts to many much older than Himself.—Before He was twelve years of age He had for sometime been under the tuition of Dr. Wolcot so far as to receive advice & instruction in painting, the Doctor having much love for the art & a few pictures in His posession. He began to paint portraits at a very early period, and when not more than thirteen years of age went to *Padstow* a town at some distance where He remained three months, and at the end of that period returned to His Fathers dressed in a new suit of cloaths & having twenty or thirty guineas in his pocket.—

Prince Hoare spoke of the Jealousy which at one period subsisted between Opie & Northcote.—Wolcot had been very much with Northcote but was considered afterwards as urging Opie against him. Fuseli on this in allusion to a picture of the death of James, King of Scotland painted by Opie, in which Opie represented Wolcot & Himself as two of the Assassins, made the following Epigram, Northcote's name being James—

Unhappy James! What mercy can'st thou find,
When Wolcot strikes before, & Opie stabs behind?

Westall I met. He told me Sandby had reported at the Academy that Sir George Beaumont had called upon Him yesterday to learn where His own & Wilkie's picture were placed in the Exhibition.—Sir George said that "The Academy ought to set aside their laws upon this occasion & elect Wilkie an Academician at once, witht. requiring that He shd. first be an Associate." Sandby spoke of it as a very strange



JOHN OPIE, ESQ., R.A.
From a Print in the British Museum

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proposal & Northcote remarked that if such a circumstance shd. ever happen it ought to be in a case where the performance should be in the highest & not the lowest department of art.—

April 14.—At Eleven I went to Mr. Coutts and was an hour with Mr. Antrobus and Coutts Trotter upon Lawrences business.—The King's pictures they considered to be quite distinct from, and as an Income over and above the £2700 a year mentioned as professional Income [earned by Lawrence].—The rects. for the King's pictures had been assigned over to Mr. Coutts so that no other person could receive that money from Government.—They appeared perfectly satisfied that it wd. be best to let the matters remain in my hands, & I told them I wd. from time to time inform them how everything goes on.—

April 15.—Penwarne told me that He first knew Opie in the year 1777.—That in 1778 Lord Bateman was upon the Coast of Cornwall commanding a Regiment of Militia, & Opie painted a portrait of *Himself* for His Lordship.—Opie was attentive to money in little matters, but He had liberal feelings. He gave support to His Father & Mother & Sister; and wd. have had His nephew brought up to study the law, but His conduct was bad, & He is now a private Soldier in a regiment of Militia.

Dardanelles Forced

J. Offley's I dined at.—Accounts were circulated today of Admiral Louis* having forced the passage of the *Dardanelles*, and brought the Turks to negotiate a peace & separate themselves from the French.—

On April 17th Farington entered in a small note-book:—The Newspapers today confirmed the report that on the 18th. of February the English Squadron consisting of the—

	guns		guns
Royal George	100	Repulse	74
Windsor Castle	110	Thunderer	74
Canopus	74	Standard	64
Pompée	74		

4 frigates & several Fire ships and Bomb-Vessels passed through the passage of the Dardanelles, overwhelming the Turkish fleet of one sail of the Line and Six frigates, & came to anchor within gun shot of the Seraglio at Constantinople on the even'g of the 20th.

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* Sir Thomas Louis (1759-1807), Rear-Admiral, was a native of Exeter. In November, 1806, he was in command of a small squadron to examine the defences of the Dardanelles, as a preliminary to the forcing of the passage by Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth in February 1807. Louis' ship, the *Canopus*, was fired at by the Turks on its return through the Straits on March 3. She was considerably damaged, but only three men were wounded. Duckworth's squadron afterwards went to the coast of Egypt, under the command of Louis who died on board *Canopus* on May 17, 1807.

Imprudent Conduct

April 16.—Lawrence told us that Lord Whitworth yesterday mentioned to Him the imprudent conduct of the Marquiss of Douglas at the Court of Petersburgh. The British merchants delivered to His Lordship a statement of certain grievances which they had to complain of and expressed strongly their sentiments of the government of Russia. His Lordship instead of considering this representation & forming from it such a statement as it might be proper to present, sent the *paper itself*, in which was language improper to be used when a government was to be addressed, & accordingly the Russian Government was so disatisfied with it that Lord Douglas wd. have been recalled if the late Change of Ministry had not taken place.—Lord Lewison Gower has been appointed in His place. Lord Whitworth sd. that when Lord Lewison was at Petersburgh in that capacity before He did not well accomodate himself to their habits.

The Nobility dine at three or four oClock, have their routs &c. at early hours, & sup at Ten oClock & retire to rest soon after. Lord Lewison on the contrary did not vary from his habits whilst in London, but passed much of the day in bed, and sat up late.—Lord Whitworth also mentioned that the Russian Ministers do their public business in a manner different from those at other courts. They do [so] while standing at a fire, or riding out & seemingly when in easy & accidental intercourse with those from other courts.—Lord Whitworth was Minister at Petersburgh several years.—

Mr. Angerstein mentioned the tardiness of the late Administration to grant money to Russia. The Ministers of that Court said " We can defend our Country, but if we advance from it we require pecuniary assistance." —They desired to have a Loan raised in England to be repaid by Russia, but our late Ministry were more willing to *give* a specific Sum, than to adopt the other proposal.—

Extravagance

Hoare spoke of the raptures of *Cumberland** upon reading " *Shee's Rhymes on Art*."†—He had spoken lightly of Shee's poetry, which caused Hoare to ask Him whether He had ever read it. He sd. He had not. Hoare pressed Him to do it; upon which He & Sir James Bland Burgess read " *the Rhymes on Art*," together; and both were in such transports with it, that they immediately took a Coach & drove to Shee's and introduced themselves to Him, as strangers who were gratified in the highest degree by what He had written.—This morning Hoare saw Cumberland at His lodgings, and heard him declare that " *The Rhymes*

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* Richard Cumberland (1732-1811), dramatist, who wrote an epic called the " Exodiad " in conjunction with Sir John Bland Burges. See Index under Cumberland, Vol. III. and under Burges, Vol. II., page 233*n*.

† See Index, Vol. III.

on Art" is the best poem ancient or modern in our language.—Hoare mentioned *Milton* at which Cumberland hesitated a little, but declared that *Dryden* & Pope fell before it.—

April 19.—Lysons called. He said that from £500 a yr. the amount of his Salary as Keeper of the Records in the Tower, deductions are made for *Land* Tax, Income Tax,—and Fees, which reduce it to £290.—

CHAPTER XXXVII

1807

The Duke and Duchess

April 20.—Mrs. Stodart called & brought her Son & daugr. being on Her way to Walmer Castle Captn. Stodart* being appointed *upon the Staff* to Major Genl. Payne,—which gives Him £300 a year additional Pay.—He was a little while ago in that capacity to Genl. Lenox (now Duke of Richmond) who she says is a most friendly man & perfectly free from pride, but the Duchess is of an opposite disposition, being excessively proud, & disdainful of persons of inferior rank. They have 13 Children. She is very jealous of Him.—The Duke is a social man, & in Company will sit to the last, but if He happens to visit a man who only drinks water He will join Him in that, being perfectly accomodating. While in Camp, he lay in a small tent,—wrapped a Cloak round Him, & made a *Saddle* His pillow.—Since he became *Duke*, no change has taken place in Him.—

Barry and Titian

April 21.—At Eleven o'Clock I called on Sir Nathaniel Holland. We talked of the sale of Barry's pictures. He said Barry's "*Birth of Pandora*" was a very incompetent attempt to do something great. It was defficient both in design, in form, & in colouring. Jupiter was a Huge figure in the upper parts but the lower limbs were so small in proportion that such a figure could not stand. It was the case with several other figures in that picture; and many of the limbs appeared to have been executed in imitation of parts which He had looked at in the antique, but these limbs were not of the same character with the other parts of the figure to which He had attached them.—What attempt there was at colouring was as bad as possible, He seemed to have no sense of it. On the whole He sd. Barry Had talked & bullied people into a belief of His being a great artist.—He said His *Venus rising from the Sea* was His best performance. In that He had the Venus of Medicis in his eye, & made something of it, but He had spoilt the picture by rubbing a brick dust colour over the upper part of the figure.—

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* Captain, afterwards Major, Stephen Stoddart (1763-1812), of the Sixth Dragoons, was married to Katherine Randal (1773-1824). He was thrown from his horse and killed near Limerick in 1812.

His son, Charles Stoddart, born in 1806, was at first in the army, but, placed on half-pay in 1834, with the rank of captain, he became secretary to the Royal United Service Institution and secretary to the Institute of Civil Engineers. In 1835 he went to Persia as Military Secretary to the future Sir Henry Ellis, and was in the Persian camp during the Siege of Herat by Mahomed Shah, until he left with John (afterwards Sir John) McNeil. In June, 1838, however, he was sent back with a message to the Shah, who was afraid of the threat of war and raised the siege.

Shortly after the retirement of the Persian army Stoddart was more than once imprisoned by the Ameer of Bokhara, whither he had gone on diplomatic business, and finally (on June 17, 1842), he and Arthur Conolly were by the Ameer's orders, beheaded in the public square in Bokhara city. Charles Stoddart was described as "a very clever, well-educated, and agreeable man," and Conolly said of him, "he is such a friend as a man would desire to have in adversity."

He spoke of the Bacchus & Ariadne by Titian belonging to Lord Kinnaird. He said it was impossible that Titian could have left the Sky in the state it is, almost pure Ultramarine, like a Lapis Lazuli stone, while another part of the sky is quite *Hot.*—He did not like the figure of Bacchus leaping from His Car, nor that of Ariadne. In some parts there is fine colour, but on the whole it is a picture more fit for an Artist to examine for the purpose of studying what is good in it, than desireable to hang up in a room for general admiration. He thought the picture had been in the hands of bungling picture menders.—

He mentioned *Wilkie* with great approbation, saying that His merit was of the right sort, so true in all respects.—

He complained of not having a good painting room at His House in the Country. He had no light good to paint by but what faced the *South* & He had been much embarassed by it.—

Wordsworth as Art Critic

April 28.—Sir George & Lady Beaumont & Wordsworth called, & I went with them to Grosvenor Square, & saw a picture by Wilson sent by Mr. Bowles to be disposed of.—Rogers had seen it. Sir George proposed 100 guineas to be the price. Segar had looked at it, & thought the edges of some of the trees were painted by *Carr.* I told Sir George that the whole was by Wilson.—

Wordsworth said, He thought Historical subjects shd. never be introduced into Landscape but where the Landscape was to be subservient to them.—Where the Landscape was intended principally to impress the mind, figures, other than such as are general, such as may a thousand times appear, and seem accidental, and not particularly to draw the attention, are injurious to the effect which the Landscape shd. produce as a scene founded on an observation of nature.—He thought this picture by Wilson excellent, but objected to the foreground dark trees on the left hand which seemed to Him like a *skreen*, put before the more distant parts.—Sir George shewed me a small landscape brought from Italy by Coleridge which I thought an indifferent picture witht. any appearance of original study.

A Card and Apology

May 2.—At noon Mr. Malone called having just recd. a note from Mr Windham signifying that He had not, He supposed through mistake, recd. a Card to the Academy dinner and apprehending it might not be known to the Members, & that He might be supposed to have omitted to send an answer, desiring Mr. Malone to mention to the members that He had not recd. a card.—I told Malone that this was another proof of the neglect of Richards [the Secretary], for that Mr. Windham, with other great political Characters, are always to be invited, & so it stands in the Invitation List.—On this Malone sd. He wd. walk to Mr. Windham's in Pallmall & set all to right.—

The Academy I went to at ½ past 1 & told West & Owen what had happened. West expressed much mortification at the misconduct of Richards & desired me to do whatever might seem proper.—I therefore wrote a note to Mr. Windham in the name of the President & Council, with a Card and apology, & Owen copied & sent it.—

I then returned home to dress & went back to the Academy ¼ before 5 & saw the Prince of Wales & the Duke of Kent looking at the pictures in the Library attended by West.—I had conversation with many. Mr. Angerstein took me to the door of Richards's room to speak to me abt. Lawrence's [financial] affairs. He sd. what had been done was a last stake ; He noticed His having a right disposition but yielded to indolence with respect to His affairs. Mr. Angerstein did not remain to dinner, being affected by *Jaundice* & looked very yellow.—He & everybody that mentioned the *Prince* noticed how very ill He looked.—

Too Near the Prince

I had placed Lord Thomond's name next to the Prince of Wales's seat, but He desired me to remove it 2 seats from Him.—I spoke to Mr. Windham abt. the Card not having been sent earlier,—He replied very pleasantly " That the dinner to Him was so much an object, that He could not suffer the disappointment when it might have arisen from a mistake." —Sir N. Holland sd. to me that when He contemplated the picture of Sir F. Baring by Lawrence, and thought of the period when Hudson was considered at the head of the Art it was surprising that such a progress should have been made, and authorised me to tell Lawrence so.—He said that picture was of first-rate quality, in which opinion Geo : Dance joined him.—Owen said to me " That He felt what Lawrence's picture was, That it was *high art* & quite His own : He added that He knew very well where He himself stood & was not deceiving Himself," meaning as much below that excellence.—Mr. Bernard asked me " whether I did not think a premium for the best Historical picture of a subject from the English History for which *Academicians only* shd. be *competitors* might not be proper to propose from the British Institution." I expressed doubt of the Members of the Academy being willing to be Competitors.—

Hoppner told me that the Prince of Wales sat to Him abt. a fortnight before the pictures were sent to the Exhibition.—As Hoppner had been several times disappointed by the Prince, He then said, He feared He shd. not be able to finish it in time, adding, that His bodily health did not enable [him] to make great exertions, upon which the Prince put His hands to Hoppner's cheeks and patting them said, " Oh, you have constitution enough to do anything."—Hoppner said the Prince had at times a gracious manner that was most engaging & subduing.—The Prince then buckled on a belt which belonged to His Robes & found it too wide by 10 or 12 Inches, so much had He shrunk in size.—He seemed sensible that His constitution was in a bad state.—The Duke of Clarence being present told Him " He wd. not live three months."—At dinner I observed He only eat *Fish*, & *salad* & a little pudding, & drank no wine : but He ate some Horse radishes at the end of the dinner.—He had none of the joy and gaiety, & spirit of address which I had at other times seen in Him.—Hoppner said He is supposed to have an *Atrophy*.—That He does not abstain from *meat* & *wine* from their being forbidden by his Physicians, but from [the] *nauseating* [effect of] *both*.—

We began dinner abt. ¼ past 6 and the Prince retired at ½ past 8 accompanied by the Duke of Kent.—West had given "*Health* to the Prince of Wales," upon which there was much *clapping*, which expressed the general feeling that *He wanted it*.—

CHAPTER XXXVIII

1807

Wordsworth's Opinion

May 4.—At noon went to the Exhibition, just opened.—I there met many.—Peter Coxe* thought Lawrences picture of Sir Francis Baring too gay in colour, & the draperies of Mr. John Baring & Mr. Wall *fluttered.* He said the flesh was also too purple.—He admitted that the picture had great force and overpowered those of Owen and Thomson placed next to it.—Boaden on the contrary thought the picture a noble piece of art, finely coloured & said Lawrence was a great creature.—Wordsworth & His wife or Sister I met. He thought it a poor exhibition, & she said it was the worst she had ever seen.—[James] Ward I met, He thought Lawrences picture equal to the works of Vandyke or Rubens.—He invited me to meet Lord Somerville & Mr. West at his House at dinner, on Saturday next, His Lordship being that day to stand Godfather to one of his children.—

Turner's Crude Blotches

May 5.—West I called on & found Ward colouring a print from West's *King Lear*, which having been bought by *Fulton* [the American engineer and artist] is with His *Ophelia*, to be shipped for America next week.—West said Calcott was falling off; His trees were like *fried parsley.*—He had been to Turner's gallery & was disgusted with what He found there; views on the Thames, crude blotches, nothing could be more vicious. At best, He said, Turner was only copying himself.—He said Lawrence was studying His art with energy, and was adopting the true mode of proceeding viz: to begin & finish what He may begin, instead of filling His House with dead coloured pictures.—I, said He, shd. be distracted to be in a House crowded with pictures begun.—

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* Peter Coxe, who died in 1844, was a son of Dr. Coxe, physician to George II.'s household, and brother of the Venerable William Coxe, Archdeacon of Wiltshire. Educated at Charterhouse School, which he left at the age of fifteen, he later became an auctioneer and dispersed some important collections of pictures. Coxe, who made a fortune and retired from business, was the author of the poem which irritated Hoppner. Published anonymously in 1807, it was entitled "Another Word or Two; or Architectural Hints in Lines to those Royal Academicians who are Painters, addressed to them on their re-election of Benjamin West, Esq., to the President's Chair." He also wrote "The Social Day: a Poem in Four Cantos," 1823.

Mrs. West spoke to me of the little encouragement Mr. West had met with. She sd. any notion that Mr. West was rich was unfounded.—That Mr. West never had a shilling in *the funds in his* life, & that *she could say more.* She said His easy temper had caused Him to allow His sons to be brought up improvidently. They could contribute nothing to lessen His expenses.—She said she had an intention of going to Bath on acct. of Her paralytic complaint, but Mr. West could not afford it.

West walked with me to my House to see the Susannah, by Rembrant, and declared it to be on this examination, a work of the first quality of Rembrant, and agreed that it would be advisable for the Academy to purchase it. He sd. He shd. converse with Richards abt. giving up the duties of Secretary. I told Him I thought Tresham wd. try to obtain the office. He sd. if He got it, He (West) wd. soon quit the Presidency.—He said Rigaud had not [the] temper for it.—He knew only of *One Man* [? Farington] who was fit for it.

Farington and Pitt's Portrait

May 7.—Passed the whole morning with Lawrence whilst He painted a portrait of Mr. Pitt from Mr. Angerstein's Bust of Him by Nollekins & from his remembrance of Mr. Pitt.—I sat to Him to enable Him to judge of the colouring. He finished the head & I thought it an admirable likeness.

Lawrence told me that whilst Lord Thurlow was sitting to Him for his portrait He said He had been out of luck when He sat to Hoppner, who had not " delivered Himself of the Archbishop of York "—meaning that the Archbishop having lately sat to Him that impression was on his mind & caused Him to make a resemblance between them.—

May 8.—Meadows, the Engraver, called, & I gave Him a note of introduction to Lady Thomond.—He said it took Him 2 years to engrave the whole length portrait of the Duke of Leeds from Lawrences picture & He had but 200 guineas for doing it.—

Turner and Wilkie

Wilkie thinks his [own] picture wants richness of colour in some respects.—Sir George thinks it might be improved by adding a rich colour to those abt. the Blind fidler, perhaps an Eastern vessel ; or warm reflected lights on the Chair might give it.—He sd. Sir John Leicester had told him that He had asked Turner the price of His picture of a Forge.—Turner answered that He understood Wilkie was to have 100 guineas for *His Blind Fidler* & He should not rate His picture at a less price. Rogers has given Sir George for Mr. Bowles 100 guineas for the picture of Villa Madame by [Richard] Wilson. It is a three-quarter size & the price Wilson had was 25 guineas.—Sir George expressed high approbation of a half length portrait of Lord Buckinghamshire by Beechey now in the Exhibition, & thought it, next to Wilkie's picture, the best in the room.—He mentioned that before the Academy dinner Hoppner had sd. to Lord St. Asaph " We shall have Sir G. Beaumont there carrying everybody up to Wilkie's picture, and not suffering any other to be looked at; adding, Sir George does great harm to the Art."

Jokes had passed with Beechey upon Lawrences picture of Sir F. Baring. Sir George remarked on Sir Francis turning his head from those He was listening to as if to hear Thunder;—Beechey sd. He turned His head from Mr. Wall as if the latter on looking on the Book before [him] announced a deficit of £100,000.—

A Chattering Display

Sir George sd. Owen is improving much.—He sd. he hoped [Payne] Knight had enough of what He liked in Westall, in his picture of *Flora;* meaning the gaudiness of it.—He remarked on West so strongly speaking of the merit of the water-colour drawings now exhibiting by that [the Water-Colour] Society, & sd. He wondered at it. For His own part when He went into the room there was such a want of harmony, such a *chattering display*, that it afforded him little pleasure. There were some effects of *rays &c.* that were ingenious, but no breadth or solidity. —[Warwick] Smiths* view of the Colisseum was the best in the room.—

West had spoke of the state of the Arts. He said there was no encouragement for the higher branches, not so much as there was 40 years ago.—All the encouragement went for trifling works.—

Daniells† I dined at.—Daniell told us of a conversation which Humphry reported to Him as having had with Sir G. Beaumont respecting Wilkie's picture. Sir George had spoken of it as being perfect, which fired Humphry, who opposed that opinion, sd. He had seen the School of Athens & other works of Raphael &c. &c. [in the Vatican]—that Wilkie's picture was upon a wrong principle of perspective in composition, the smaller figures being in the front, & the larger behind.—Sir George noticed this conversation to-day, & sd. Humphry appeared to be superannuated.—

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* See Index, Vols. I. and III.

† Thomas Daniell, R.A. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

CHAPTER XXXIX

1807

A Rembrandt for £200

May 12.—Called on Westall. By a Law passed in 1801 moved by Flaxman & seconded by Daniell " not more than £50 in *one year* can be granted as assistance to any Academician, Associate or Other person witht. the concurrence of a general Assembly & the sanction of the King," —therefore the Council having already granted to Nixon [A.R.A.] 50 guineas cannot do more than pay His pension for this year, & recommend to the Council of the next year to grant Him £50 after Christmas.— A vote was passed to purchase the Susannah by Rembrant for £200— It was unanimously agreed to.*—

May 13.—This day I sat to Lawrence for the beginning of a Three quarter portrait.—Lysons came there and thought Mr. Pitt's portrait wonderfully like.—

Wordsworth

Lawrence was at Sotheby's† last night where Richd. Sharpe‡ expressed disapprobation of Wordsworths poems just published, saying He had carried His system of simplicity too far, and had proceeded to puerility.—Sir George Beaumont after Sharpe was gone sd. to Lawrence that " He supposed the Blood Hounds would now be upon Wordsworth."—

May 14.—The Princess of Wales went to Court after an absence of two years.

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* The Royal Academy apparently never purchased the " Susanna." According to Mr. Hofstede de Groot, this version of " Susanna " was in the collection of Edmund Burke (1769), sold in the sale of pictures of Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1795, and afterwards passed, respectively, to Sir E. Lechmere, Charles Sedelmeyer, and the Kaiser Friedrich Museum, Berlin, where it was in 1911.

† William Sotheby, poet. See Index, Vol. II.

‡ Richard (Conversation) Sharp (1759-1835) was a hatter who made a fortune and took a keen interest in politics and literature. His friends included Dr. Johnson, Burke, Samuel Rogers, Sydney Smith, and Wordsworth, who said that Sharp knew Italy better than anyone he had ever met. See Index, Vol. I.

May 15.—Lawrence I called on. He had just recd. a letter from a Mr. Evans of Norwich requesting Him to paint a whole length portrait of Mr. Coke [of Norfolk].*

May 17.—Hoppner I called on & went with Him to Sir John Leicester's & saw the Collection of pictures by British Artists only.—Hoppner told me that Sir G. Beaumont & Sir A. Hume did not approve the pictures by Turner.—He sd. Sir George now begins to remark that Wilkie does not imitate the *surfaces of objects* faithfully, but rather makes them all appear as of the same quality.—He spoke of Lawrence's picture of Sir F. Baring &c. & sd. there was much in it which He could not do, but still He saw in Lawrences pictures something wanting which He could do ; meaning in the colour & general affect.—He said Shee would never make a good painter : He had not an eye.—

May 19.—Lawrence I dined with.—He had yesterday had conversation with Sotheby respecting G.B. [Sir George Beaumont] & the latter acknowledged that He had not a *strong mind*, & could not bear to be pressed deeply upon any subject. Lawrence gave His own opinion fully. The other remarked that G.B. always had a novelty to support, but never seemed to dwell upon the merits of those who were established.—

Wilkie Might Make £1,000

Mrs. Phipps, while speaking of *Wilkie*, said " How much might He not make by exhibiting His pictures for his own advantage ? "—Sir George [Beaumont] sd. He might make £1000.—We were of one mind abt. it. He mentioned that He & Lord Mulgrave had each ordered *two pictures from* Him, & He shd. expect to have another in addition to that He had already, at sometime.—He made some observations, " That Wilkie might acquire more *transparency*."—He should not look any longer at the pictures of *Teniers* but those of Ostade, & Rembrant.

The King's Navy

May 23.—Called on Lord Gardner at breakfast time at Mrs. Cornwall's [a relative of Farington].—Lord Gardner told us that He had applied to the Admiralty to make William [Farington's nephew] a Captain but had been refused, as it was said, " from an objection to opening the door to promotion."—He therefore said William must have patience. He sd. He had thought the promotion might have been granted to Him on acct. of his *having left Ireland*. He said He had got William appointed to the *Ville de Paris* in which Ship He [Lord Gardner] was to Hoist His Flag,—and all His officers were to be sent to Her.—He saw the King on Wednesday last, who told Him the Ville de Paris was a better ship than the *Hibernia* as the latter carried Her lower ports too near the water. —The King sd. alluding to administrations " that He did not like changes,"

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

—to which His Lordship replied " that He hoped His Majesty wd. have no more changes."

Blackwall I went to, where in Perry & Wells's Dock a 74 gun Ship was launched, named the Elizabeth.—Lord Mulgrave [first Lord of the Admiralty] threw a Bottle at Her Bow & named Her when she began to move.—There was a great concourse of people.—The Launch took place at 35 minutes after 2, & at 3 a large Assembly was formed in one of the work Houses, where 5 tables were placed & covered with a Cold Collation of which I judge 500 persons partook.—This lasted half an Hour. Toasts appropriate & cheers were given.—

Mr. Coke Talked

May 26.—Mr. Coke of Norfolk sat yesterday to Lawrence for a whole length portrait. He said that painted by *Opie* had not been approved. Lawrence said Mr. Coke talked incessantly, & so moved His head about, that it was very difficult to obtain a true view of his face.—I recommended to Him to mention to Mr. Coke that He must for a time be steady in sitting or no faithful portrait of him could be given.

May 27.—Lawrence I dined with.—We talked of his having parties at his house upon the Plan Sir Joshua Reynolds had, & He purposed to commence by inviting—Wm. Spencer,—Sharpe,—Sotheby, & Kemble. —Sharpe thinks highly of " Knights enquiry into the principles of taste," & says He had read it over three times & on the last reading thought more highly of it than before.—Lawrence thinks Knight will be mortified by Hoppners remarks upon it.*—Knight tells a story well, but while He endeavours to excite mirth in others laughs a good deal himself.—On the contrary Sir Geo. Beaumont while He attempts to produce the same effect in those who listen preserves His gravity & that most when He comes to the point of ludicrous description.—Lawrence thinks Sir George's manner on such occasions more artificial than that of Knight.—Knights *forte* is discussion & description ; He has no talent for *repartee*.—Bowles has something of poetry in what He writes : but has a good deal of folly about Him.—

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* To the *Artist*, May 23, 1807, Hoppner contributed a scathing review of Payne Knight's " Inquiry into the Principles of Taste."

CHAPTER XL

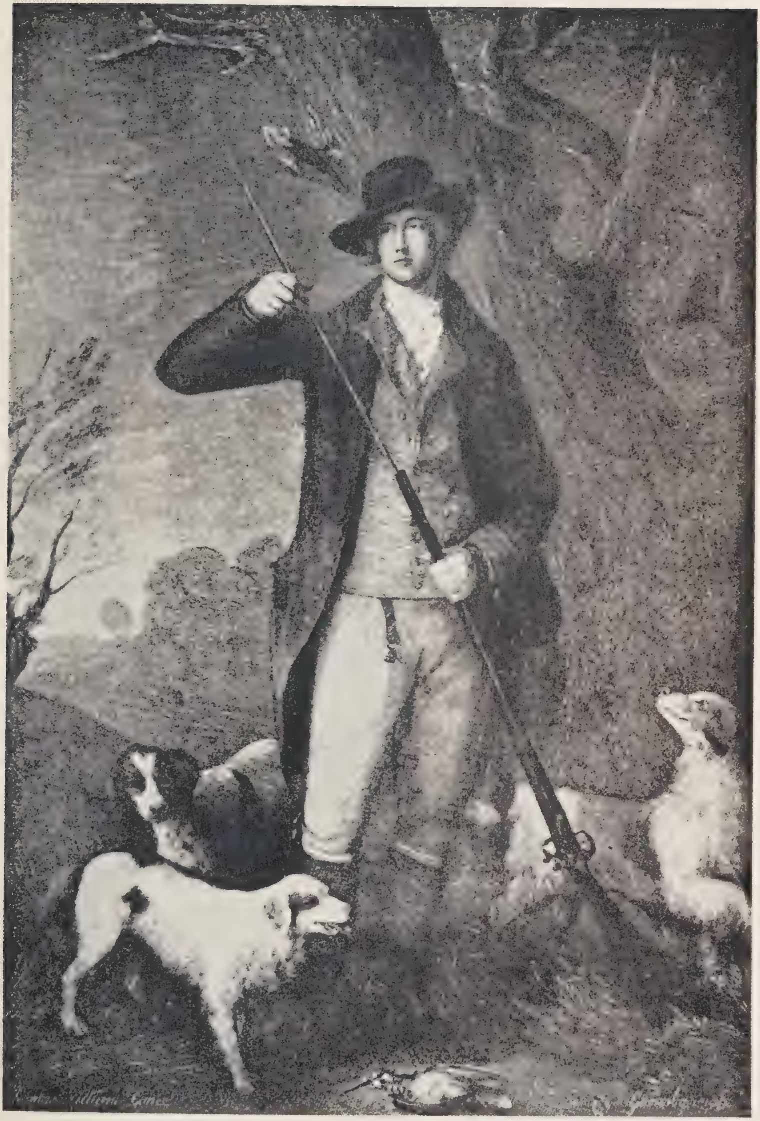
1807

Coke of Norfolk

May 28.—Lawrence called in the evening. Mr. Coke of Norfolk sat to him today & read a letter He had just recd. from York expressing that if Lord Milton should not be able to make a successful effort at the election on the day following viz: the 27th inst. they should begin to despair.—Mr. Coke acknowledged the abilities of Wilberforce, but signified that He had left those who when in Administration had carried through His measure of the *abolition of the Slave trade*, & to whom He stood indebted for it. Lawrence replied that Mr. Wilberforce might have due sense of the value of their assistance & of their good conduct in that instance, but it did not lay him under an obligation to support them in other matters contrary to his judgment.—At another time Mr. Coke said, It seemed odd that a man of Wilberforce's narrow fortune with little property in the County, should oppose Himself to such families as those of Ld. Fitzwilliam & Lord Harewood. Thus showing His own feeling of the claims of Aristocratick power.—He spoke of the Norfolk election & said "He had fought the County"—He said the expences on both sides at the election in October last, He & Windham against Coll. Wodehouse cost £70,000.

Dishonest Land Steward

He said that He had no *Land Steward*, but did all that business himself & has done it during many years. There had been a strong lesson in his own family to induce Him to undertake it.—A Boy of the name of *Caldwell* was recommended by a person at Norwich to the late Earl of Leicester, for some family purpose, & came to Holkham with half a guinea in his pocket.—He was gradually advanced by the Earl & at last became Land Steward in which capacity He amassed £100,000.—The following instance showed how He carried matters on.—A Tenant of Lord Leicester being desirous to have his Lease renewed sent Caldwell a goose pye, & with it a letter in which He mentioned that Mr. Caldwell would find an *Egg*, which He desired him to look into. It contained £2000 with which Caldwell was so well satisfied that the Lease was soon



Coke of Holkham
From a Portrait by Gainsborough, the property of the Earl of Leicester.

oface p. 138

granted.—When Mr. Coke took possession of the estate He was determined to dismiss Caldwell but the latter insisted that under the will of Lord Leicester He could retain His office. Mr. Coke went into Chancery with him & in 3 years had a decission in His favour. The above story wd. have been brought forward had the Law suit been continued as the man who gave the £2000 acknowledged it.—

Business First

Mr. Coke said that He does all His business in the morning between the Hours of 7 & 10 after which time He is at leisure to shoot or for any other amusement. He said that He makes it a rule to answer every letter the day he receives it.—He told Lawrence that He is now 56 years old.—Lawrence said He looks like a man of 40 years old & not more.—He spoke of Sir Francis Burdett & said He had seen a great deal of Him & thought Him sincere in His professions; that He was a great Advocate for an *Agrarian Law*, & declared that were it adopted He should willingly give up all beyond £50 a yr. & that mankind wd. be in a happier state.—

[William] Cobbett* was mentioned & Mr. Coke spoke of His being a strong though rough writer. Lawrence remarked that though He wrote strongly He had not yet been able to convince the people that Mr. Pitt was " a shallow-headed fellow."—Mr. Coke sd. that in the whole length portrait Opie had painted of him he had totally failed.

May 29.—Wilson's I went to in the even'g & heard Mrs. Miles play on the Harpsichord—She teaches the Princess Charlotte of Wales & has £300, a year for it.

Lawrence I saw in the afternoon. Charles Long† & Sir Abraham [Hume] had called to see the portrait of Mr. Pitt. Lawrence saw that Long did not approve the likeness; but said it was a very fine picture, & like, & that the Coat was the *best black* He had ever seen painted. Sir Abraham seemed to think it more like than Long did.—Mr. Dacre Adams‡ & Mr. Courtenay§ afterwards met them & Long said that the picture was *not so like* as that *by Hoppner* but was a *better picture.* This made no difference in the opinion of Adams & Courtenay.—West I met at Lawrence's. He said the picture was as like as if Mr. Pitt had sat for it, and there were in it many circumstances expressed with all the care of nice attention to the individual.—

Unprincipled Politicians

June 1.—I had company to dinner. We dined in my great painting room in which & in the drawing room I had a fire.—Lawrence told me that Mr. Coke sat to Him today, & while sitting recd. a letter from York stating that Lord Milton was behind Lascelles* as well as Wilberforce, Mr. Coke then said He gave up all hope of Lord Milton succeeding, as now Lascelles might put the *long oath* to Milton's voters which wd. delay the polling & prevent His bringing up a sufficient number. Coke added that He well knew the management of Elections & what might be done to occasion delay.—He told Lawrence that He dined with Lord Howick the day before, who told Him that they (the opposition) should number 240 in the House of Commons, & that very early after the meeting of parliament, they should bring on a question to try the strength of the two parties.—He also sd. that it was understood that government meant to proceed against Sir Francis Burdet on account of His scandalous address to the Electors of Westminster, & that the Opposition meant to support Him.—Such is the unprincipled disposition of a political party, which Condemning the act of Sir Francis, wd. support Him notwithstanding to create difficulty to the Ministry.

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* See Index, Vols. I. and II.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

‡ William Dacres Adams, Commissioner of Woods and Forests.

§ John Courtney, M.P. See Vols. I. and III.

An Expert Engraver

Wm. Daniell [R.A.] told me that John Byrne finding no profits to arise from the publication of plates to accompany *Lyson's Brittania*, has declined having any further concern in it, as He cannot afford to wait for profits.—Cadell & Davis applied to Wm. Daniell to make drawings for a continuation of the work & to superintend the engravings & to become a partner in it.—He consulted me upon it this morning & I advised Him not to engage in it but upon specific terms to *be paid for whatever He might do*.—He told me that He has become so expeditious in executing works in Aqua-tinta that He has been able to execute a plate for the publication of *Animals* in *one day*, & that He charged Ten guineas for each plate.—He said that He had lately executed 20 plates for Sir John Carr's† *Stranger in Holland*, to be published by Philips, & that Philips paid Him £200 for them, & that He executed the whole of them in *Six weeks*.—They were done from Sketches made by *Carr*, and Philips wished much to have his (Daniells) name to them as the engraver, but that He wd. not consent to, as He wd. not appear in that capacity but where He worked from his own drawings.—He sd. the great facility which He had acquired in executing in Aqua-tinta was obtained by the most severe application for Seven years together after He arrived in England from India.—He said He had worked from 6 in the morning till 12 at night.—

June 2.—Marchi [Sir Joshua Reynolds' Assistant] called.—He had seen the Exhibition & spoke highly of *Wilkie's picture* of the *Blind Fidler*. He said it was so sober & solid & well managed as to put down all those that were near it.—Westall's *Flora* appeared fiery & poor by it; and *Turners Forge* flimsy.—He much disliked Northcote's portrait of the King on Horseback,—said the *Horse* was hard & liny, & the back ground tame & without taste.

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* Edward Lascelles, afterwards first Earl of Harewood. See Vols. I. and III.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

CHAPTER XLI

1807

Bishop and Princess

June 2.—[The Rev. Mr.] Hughes called—He told me the Average income of Seven years past, of a Canon Residentiary of St. Pauls is £1795 a year. That He shall be required to reside three months in the year unless prevented by illness or some other reasonable cause.—He said He was just come from the Bishop of Salisbury (Dr. Fisher) and had found Him in a state of flurry of spirits in consequence of an interview with the Prince of Wales yesterday. The Bishop, as Preceptor to the Princess Charlotte of Wales, has felt much anxiety on account of the great negligence shewn in educating & attending the Princess. The arrangement in the first instance was likely to produce difficulty.—The King appointed the *men* who were to superintend & give instruction to the young Princess, & the Prince of Wales appointed the *Women.* Difference of opinion & sentiment has accordingly prevailed among them, & the Bishop has complained of the bad mode of proceeding; while on the contrary the women, viz: Lady Clifford* &c. have prejudiced the Prince of Wales against the Bishop, who has been treated with great disrespect by His Royal Highness. He said He had written a letter to the Prince respecting the young Princess & no notice was taken of it. The Prince had *passed Him*, had looked at him *witht. noticing Him.*

Royal Etiquette

In this situation feeling it necessary to do something, about six weeks ago the Bishop went to Windsor & applied to the Princess Elizabeth to obtain that He might speak to the Queen on the subject. A time was fixed and it caused a notification from the King for the Bishop to come to Him the next morning.—The Bishop went to the King & was with His Majesty an Hour, but to His surprise and mortification *the King did not say one word respecting the young Princess or those about Her.*—The Etiquette with the King is that His Majesty must commence the conversation *& choose His subject.* Whether from the King at that [time] being troubled with the Political changes which were taking place,—whether from disinclination arising from a wish not to be troubled, the effect of blindness & old age coming upon Him, so it was that nothing was said & the Bishop returned as He went.—Feeling it however necessary that something shd. be done, He yesterday obtained an interview with the Prince of Wales & after a conversation of two hours left Him, as He thinks *mutually disatisfied.*—

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* Lady Clifford or de Clifford was Princess Charlotte's governess, and, according to Lady Charlotte Bury, in the "Court of England under George IV.," Lady de Clifford seems to have been "a good natured, common-place person, and the young Princess appears to be attached to her, which is a good indication of her Ladyship's temper." The same diarist states that the ordinary Royal Family dinner party always weighed heavily on the Princess, whose mother thought that Lady de Clifford kept the Princess Charlotte too rigidly righteous. Lady de Clifford, however, assured the Princess of Wales that "Princess Charlotte has liberty enough with me." Lady de Clifford died in South Audley Street in August, 1828, aged eighty-five years.

In this state things cannot remain; either the Bishop must give up His situation or the Women must give way.—The Bishop complains of most improper proceeding in respect of want of attention to the young Princess, both in what regards Her personally & to Her instruction.—In the afternoon she is left solely in company with a *female servant only*, which, though she appears to be a well disposed young person, the Bishop deems to be highly improper. Her manners are not attended to. As an instance the Bishop noticed that Her nose requiring to be *wiped*, she did not apply Her Handkerchief, but wiped Her nose with *Her Sleeve* as vulgar people do.

The Bishoprick of Salisbury which the Bishop has very lately obtained is worth £4,000 a year.

June 3.—Lane* I called on at 41 Charing Cross & found him copying a portrait of Mr. Pitt for Hoppner.—He desired to mention to me that Hoppner called upon him a week or 10 days since & after looking at the Copies making by Lane walked abt. the room & then said "That Mr. Pitt being dead, people began to forget him, and He did not think that He should want more Copies." He then asked Lane how much He paid for His lodgings & was informed by Lane that He paid a guinea and a Half a week & had taken them for Six months.—Hoppner then said He wd. pay Lane what wd. be due for His Lodgings for the time He had engaged them—Lane reminded Him that He had said that after He shd. have finished the copies of Mr. Pitts portrait which had been proposed Hoppner sd. He wd. find Him other employ. Nothing further passed of an explanatory kind; but on Saturday last Hoppner sent to Him an order for another copy of Mr. Pitts portrait making the fifth ordered.—From this I plainly saw that Hoppner was not satisfied with Lane's copies & wished to stop His proceeding to make more.—

Eggs and Spinach

We [Steers and Farington] went to *Segar's*† the picture dealer. He told us that Barretts popularity was so great as a painter that 30 years ago He was glad to get what He could from Him to sell again & paid Him high prices. He said Barrett carried Himself very high, & spoke of *Wilson* as being defficient in finishing His pictures. This Segar told to Wilson, who replied "He complains of my not finishing my pictures & I see *His eggs & Spinnage*," alluding to Barretts green & yellow colouring.—

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* Samuel Lane. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† David Seguier. See Vol. III., page 232.

Segar told us that a Lady had advanced to *Stubbs* [the animal painter] a considerable sum of money & Had a Bond of Security which gave Her a claim to His pictures &c.—These were sold the last week & the prices were kept up by Her agents & many articles were bought in. It is understood that after Her Debt is paid there will be little left.—

A Rembrandt

June 4.—Lawrence I called on & went with Him to *De Cort's** & with Him we went to De Lafontaine† at *Sablionaris* in Leicester fields, where we saw several pictures lately imported by him; viz: a Sea port landscape, even'g by Claude, of a very warm colour, & fine for which the price named was 3000 guineas,—A picture of *Boats* by Rembrant, very good—A picture called Corregio, very indifferent, for which 3000 guineas was asked.—An exquisite picture by Rembrant, "The Woman taken in Adultery," for this 5000 guineas was asked. Mr. Angerstein came and looked at the pictures & went away saying, "two things are wanting for such purchases, money & room to place them."

De Cort told us that Lord Aylesford had said to Him that He had undertaken to learn many different things; that it had been his rule to persist in applying to whatever He desired to learn for the space of three years, & if at the end of that time He should not have made sufficient progress He gave up the pursuit.—He had studied drawing, & Painting & Architecture; also had learnt to ride the Great Horse,—and had become an expert Archer; and other things.—

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* Hendrick De Cort was born in Antwerp in 1742, and settling in England, became a regular contributor to the Royal Academy. His pictures, which represented architectural subjects, were painted in the Italian style of the period. He died in London in 1810.

† Lafontaine was a Paris dealer, and in his sale at Christie's in 1807, the Claude "Landscape and Seaport" fetched £1,995, Correggio "Virgin and Child," £3,150; Rembrandt's "The Woman taken in Adultery" was sold for £5,250 and is No. 45 in the National Gallery. [See entry and footnote under June 16.] The "Boats" may be No. 967*d* in Hofstede de Groot's "Catalogue of Dutch Painters."

CHAPTER XLII

1807

A Shameful Affront

June 4.—Lawrence told me that Mr. Coke yesterday related to Him the particulars of those proceedings at Norwich which caused a petition to be presented against Him and Mr. Windham.* It was owing to an affront offered to Mrs. Berney and Mrs. Atkins, who having rode through the streets of Norwich holding a Poll bearing the Colours of Coll. Wodehouse the other Candidate, some of Coke & Windhams party placed two Prostitutes in a Barouche & drove them abt. in imitation of those ladies. —Mr. Coke sd. that on hearing of it, He did what He could to prevent it, but found one of His Nephews at the Head of the mob, which He could not stop.—Owing to this circumstance, the petition having been successful, Mr. Windham lost His Seat for Norfolk, which otherways He would probably have possessed during His life.—At present Windham is doubtful whether He shall be able to secure a seat in Parliament, as shd. Lord Milton not succeed in Yorkshire, He must vacate the Seat given to Him by Lord Fitzwilliam for Higham Ferrers.—

Pocket Boroughs

Government, Mr. Coke said, have bought up all the Boroughs they could and at high prices; giving £6000 for a Seat. *Tierney*† has been looking out for one, for which He would pay £4000, but has not succeeded.—

Lord Thanet has behaved very handsomely to Mr. Courtney, who being very poor, and tired of parliament, His Lordship who had before bought Appleby for Him, now gave Him leave to dispose of a Seat for that Borough, which accordingly Courtney has done to Mr. Cuthbert for £4000.—

Mr. Coke spoke of Lord Howick, and sd. " Howick is the first man on his side in the House of Commons, but He is not popular. He is

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* William Windham. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† George Tierney. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Hot & irritable, but He is sincere & not ill-tempered." He said the Opposition now reckoned upon counting 196 members on their side.

Mr. Coke sd. to Lawrence that Lord Fitzwilliam had sd. He wd. expend £150,000 to carry Yorkshire for his son Lord Milton, yet wd. probably lose it, from not carrying down the London voters at the commencement of the Poll which He might have done for £3000.

Gainsborough Letters

June 5.—Downman called to request my interest to be elected an Academician & hinted that if not chosen He shd. resign His Diploma of Associate. I gave him only general answers, and said His residence not being in London might be an objection. He said that though He now lived at Exeter, He comes to London every year. He said He had married the daughter of the late Mr. Jackson, musician, of Exeter, the intimate acquaintance of Gainsborough.

Mrs. Downman has in her posession a large Collection of letters* written by Gainsborough to Jackson, in a truly original & singular stile. —Mr. [Thomas] Jackson who was Minister at [Turin] is now at *Trieste*, finding it difficult to get to England, as Buonaparte is desirous to seize Him.—

Nollekens and the Elgin Marbles

June 6.—Nollekens had seen the works in Sculpture brought from Athens by Lord Elgin, & did not find anything fine amoung them. He could not believe them to be the work of Phidias ; but on Mostyn† speaking of their fine effect when upon the temples at Athens, He sd. Well, when they are all arranged, and put into such situations as to be properly seen, & the broken parts united we shall see more of them.—Nollekens shewed us the Casts taken from the faces of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, & the Duchess of Devonshire after their deaths. He sd. He had refused to make a Bust of the Duchess of Devonshire from the Cast, as He could not undertake to make it like what she appeared to be. In consequence Lady Besborough had taken away the *first Cast* which was taken.—

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* Mention of these Gainsborough letters is of much interest. It is well known that considerable correspondence passed between the artist and William Jackson, whose music to an adaptation of "Lycidas" was favourably received at Covent Garden. In fact, twelve letters by Gainsborough to Jackson were purchased by the Royal Academy about forty years ago from a great-niece of Jackson's brother Thomas, to whom the musician left them.

According to this story, it would seem that the "large" collection of letters referred to by Farington was a separate batch bequeathed by William Jackson to his daughter, Mrs. Downman. If that is so, her letters may yet be awaiting discovery. Mrs. Downman had two sons and one daughter.

† Probably the Mr. Mostyn who married Miss Cecilia Thrale, daughter of Mrs. Piozzi, who on April 4, 1820, wrote : "This moment brought me an agreeable letter from Mrs. Mostyn. She and her youngest son are very gay at Florence, acting English plays, &c. . . . All among Lord and Lady performers, of course." After Mrs. Mostyn's death in 1857 a collection of relics of her mother were sold at Sillwood Lodge, Brighton.

Nollekens told us He shd. be 70 years old in August next, & Dance said He was 66 years old in April last.—Nollekens told Him He looked as well as He did 30 years ago, & added " That He had always a laughing face," meaning that His good humour had preserved his health.

Pitt's Bust and Portrait

On our coming away Dance* told me that He thought the Bust of Mr. Pitt had much of his air & look, but it seemed to Him not to be true to the proportions of Mr. Pitts Head, the upper part of the head being too small, & the nose not the true form.—He added that having conversed with Mr. Pitt He had a full recollection of him & noticed that His look, the peculiar look of his eyes had something in it, when speaking upon business, that " had *more of spirit than flesh in it.*" On the whole, however, He thought this Bust the best representation of him.—He said having heard Hoppners portrait of Mr. Pitt much spoken of He went to the Exhibition to see it & was greatly disappointed. He sd. He should not have known it to have *been intended for Mr. Pitt.*

Nollekens told us that He had 52 Busts of Mr. Pitt to execute in Marble. —And had eight of Mr. Fox, of whom He had before executed Twenty one Busts. He has now 100 guineas for each Bust.—

Dance told me that He shd. surprise me by telling me that His Brother, Sir N. Holland,† is going to build a House in Piccadilly, & this at 72 years of age. But it is with a view to make an agreeable residence for Lady Holland, who has great pleasure in associating with Her friends who are in high situations. He sd. He supposes Sir Nathaniel expends £5000 a year, & believes He has £30,000 a year, so that it wd. only be the expense of surplus income for one year.—

Nollekens told me that when Stubbs died there was no money in the House, but abt. £20 was owing to Him by a person. His House was mortgaged to a lady a friend of his, and He owed her money besides. His pictures & effects produced at the sale upwards of £4000, but the Lady had been ill-advised & bought in pictures for which high prices were bid; one in particular for which Mr. Thos. Hope bid upwards of £200, yet she wd. not let it go.

Boswell called.‡ He said affairs looked so ill He was afraid to say " What News."—He wished Wilberforce & Lascelles to succeed for Yorkshire.—He was glad Lord Howick had lost Northumberland. He could not forget former circumstances, and that His Lordship, then Mr. Grey, was the only Member of the House of Commons who *appeared in colours* when the House was in mourning for the death of the King of France.—His haughtiness has lost Him Northumberland: He would not condescend to ask for votes.—

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* George Dance. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† See Index, Vols. I. and II.

‡ James Boswell, the younger. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Boswell wished for Lascelles to succeed as He was the Member who moved for all the Honors voted to the memory of Mr. Pitt by the House of Commons.—He spoke of the death of General Paoli [the Corsican soldier], His old friend. He died at the age of 82 of a suppression of Urine, to which He had been long subject.—He had a Pension of £2000 a year from our Government, but had many Corsican friends to assist for whom He had an open table.—His figure had undergone a great change: from being very large & stout He had become very thin: but His spirits were good.—

Boswell spoke of the very great number of deaths which had happened during the last winter & spring, but particularly in the months of March & April. He lost two friends not older than Himself who were carried off by colds & fever.—

CHAPTER XLIII

1807

Wine, a Kind of Poison

June 6.—[George] Dance I dined with.—We dined a little before 5—and had Port, Madeira, & *Red Champaigne.**—Drinking was spoken of. Dance told me I knew a person who never in his life was intoxicated; it was Sir Nathl. Holland, His Brother.—He added that Sir Nathl. always objected to wine; and, when alone, He believed did not drink any; but in company passes the bottle so as to keep up an appearance of drinking some wine. Sir Nathl. has a strong prejudice against wine & thinks it a kind of poison.—To Tea He has no objection.—

Sleeping was a topick of conversation. Mostyn sd. that He sleeps 8 or 9 hours witht. intermission, but on waking finds no disposition to rise suddenly, no elasticity, but rather an inclination to dozing.—He seldom dreams, at least so as to have any impression remaining.—Sir N. Dance on the contrary sd. that His sleep is short, not more than two hours at a time, & that in the morning He awakes rather debilitated than refreshed. He passes the night in a state of dreaming & irritation which were He to refrain from wine He said, would probably not be the case, but He has not yet had resolution to do so.—Dance sd. that He considered 7 Hours sleeping quite sufficient. If He goes to bed at Eleven He wakes at 4, and generally rises at 6 or means to do it.—

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* Mr. H. Warner Allen writes: The red "champaigne" to which Farington refers is presumably a still wine. Henry VIII. owned a vineyard in Champagne, but he drank nothing from it but still wine, since Champagne was only invented in the late Seventeenth Century. It must be remembered that both Burgundy and Champagne are produced from the *pinot* grape. Red still champagne, unfortunately, will not travel, but it still stands in high repute in its own country, and M. Paillard, of Bouzy, has offered the writer a really delightful Bouzy of 1893. Professor Saintsbury, in his "Notes on a Cellar Book," speaks with great affection of a red Verzenay of 1868, and the wine-lover in old days found at the Haute Mère Dieu Hôtel of Châlons-sur-Marne a fine choice of this fascinating wine.

A propos of the remarks of Mr. H. Warner Allen concerning the still red "champaigne" referred to in the delightful Farington Diary, it may interest its readers to hear of a few more varieties of that classical beverage, says another correspondent.

"I was present on the 9th December, 1903, at a luncheon, when the following rare specimens of red non-mousseux champagne were sampled, specially shipped by Messrs. Moët and Chandon, of Epernay, for the jubilee of one of their friends in this country:

1865 Bouzy.
1865 Verzenay.
1874 Bouzy.
1874 Ay.
1874 Verzenay.
1870 Ay.
1870 Bouzy.
1870 Verzenay."

Too Much Talk about Art

After dinner the 13th. number of the *Artist* was brought in, & Dance read it through. The writers in this number were P. Hoare,—Hoppner & Cumberland.—At the conclusion Dance expressed to the purpose "That there was much sound & little sense."—Northcote had exposed himself by undervaluing Nicolo Poussin.—Of Shee He said, That from what He had seen of Him He was convinced that He would never do much; He had undertaken to write upon His art before He understood it.—He said it appeared generally that those who knew most of their art were least disposed to talk much about it.—He spoke of the bad taste of the buildings now erecting & those which have been erected near Westminster Hall, & Abbey, of which *Groves* has the direction. He sd. He had been applied to to make designs for a continuation of those buildings but had not taken any notice of it.—

Dwellings calculated for *comfort* were spoken of. Mostyn sd. Windsor Castle & such like were not suited to it. Dance thought that in great buildings comfort might be had, but that *certainly magnificence was an incumbrance upon it.*—

English Integrity

Mostyn travelled to Russia & has been at Petersburgh & at Moscow.—The English people are much respected in that country for their *integrity*. It was frequently said to Him "I must believe you, for you are an Englishman."—Many persons in Russia speak English, but among the higher order French is spoken so generally as to seem among them a native language.—At Petersburgh the higher orders are *all Courtiers*,—at Moscow their manners are more simple and natural.—Hospitality abounds among them, so far as feeding those who go to their Houses; but it is not attended with much social pleasure.—At Moscow the dinner may be at one, two, or three oClock, when large parties assemble, but the conversation does not extend beyond those who sit on the right & left of each of the party.—At Moscow, & in other parts of Russia, the opinion of the English is that they are all powerful by Sea, but nothing on land:—but their notions are all general: they have no knowledge of circumstances.—I asked Mostyn whether He kept a Diary when he travelled. He said, "No, only made memorandums, which no other person wd. understand."—

Wilkie and Sir Joshua

June 7.—The Academy I went to at 2 oClock & met Lady Thomond, Mr. & Miss Metcalfe, & Mr. Henry Hope, who had a private view of the Exhibition through my means.—Wilkie's picture engaged their particular attention. "What would my Uncle, Sir Joshua, have said Had he seen this picture," said Lady Thomond to me,—adding "It is worth as much money as a picture can be worth." Only one head in the picture appeared to her to be defficient, that of the Blind Fidler's wife.—

[The following paragraph appeared in the *Morning Herald* of July 8th: "A correspondent expresses much astonishment at reading in the newspapers that a monument is proposed to be erected to the memory of the late Sir Joshua Reynolds, *by Subscription.* The proposer of such a Plan must surely have forgotten that the neice of that celebrated Artist inherited nearly £100,000 from Him, which created Her Marchioness of Thomond, and that a Monument by subscription must therefore prove to that Lady of exalted rank a monument of disgrace."—From small note-book.]

Sale of Opie's pictures—It produced £1386.—Clothing the Naked by Opie Sold for £136.10.—Laughing Girl by Sir Joshua a ¾—for £151. 10.0.—bought by Lord Lowther.

A Rembrandt Masterpiece

June 10.—West had been today at Christies Auction room to look again at the picture of "The Woman taken in Adultery" which is to be put up to sale on Saturday next with other pictures belonging to the Frenchman who has brought them over.—He then expressed Himself in the strongest manner of the merit of the picture & declared it to be in its way the finest piece of Art in the world.—He said He had examined it carefully & saw that it was painted upon a ground originally *white*, & that passed over with a wash of *Burnt Umber* to which was added some yellow colour to make it more luminous. Upon this rich toned ground the whole subject was washed in with *Black only*, the ground giving warmth sufficient to that cool colour. The next proceeding was to wash in with thin colours the colour of each object and gradually to encrease the colour of the *light parts* till the whole effect was produced.—I recommended to Him to paint a subject in the same manner while these observations were fresh in His mind. He said He intended to do so, & had fixed upon His sketch of the Institution of the Order of the Garter, which would afford Him an opportunity to introduce much in imitation of the Altar in Rembrant's picture.—

He then spoke in his peculiar way of the extraordinary effect the picture by Rembrant had on the spectators. They were struck with reverence of it, & all who approached it pulled off their Hats.—He said the first time He saw such an effect produced by a picture was when His picture of the death of Lord Nelson was exhibited in His room. By an instinctive motion the hand accompanied the mind, & when the picture was approached the Hat was taken off.—He then shewed me an etching by Heath from His picture of the death of Lord Nelson which He had this day recd. and tomorrow was to pay the first £200.—

He said He had seen the picture of the death of Lord Nelson by *Devis*, which had much merit, but it had more convinced Him that there was no other way of representing the death of a Hero but by an *Epic* representation of it.—It must exhibit the event in a way to excite awe, & veneration & that which may be required to give superior interest to the representation must be introduced, all that can shew the importance of the Hero.—Wolfe must not die like a common Soldier under a Bush; neither should Nelson be represented dying in the gloomy hold of a Ship, like a sick man in a Prison Hole.—To move the mind there should be a spectacle presented to raise & warm the mind, & all shd. be proportioned to the highest idea conceived of the Hero. No Boy, sd. West, wd. be animated by a representation of Nelson dying like an ordinary man, His feelings must be roused & His mind inflamed by a scene great & extraordinary. A mere matter of fact will never produce this effect.

West expressed a strong wish that Wilkie shd. see the picture by Rembrant, as it wd. at once shew Him what He wanted & He wd. feel it. If to the truth of expression, & nice imitation of objects He could add the *transparency of Rembrant* His pictures wd. be such works as were never yet seen.—Four thousand pounds has been offered for the Rembrant.

CHAPTER XLIV

1807

Rembrandt

June 12.—After breakfast went with [Dr.] Hayes to Lawrence's & shewed Him the portrait of Mr. Pitt.—Instantly on seeing it He said "That's the Man"—He made only one remark, which was that the chin was too round.—Christies I went to & found many persons assembled to see the picture of the Woman taken in Adultery by Rembrant.—Northcote told me He wd. much rather have the *Susannah* by Rembrant [now in the Kaiser Friedrich Museum, Berlin]; that this picture was beautifully coloured & harmonised; but there was in other respects so much misery in the picture, the figures were so petite & mean that He would not give twopence for it.—[Charles] Towne said He did not believe the picture to have been painted by Rembrant, but by another artist whose name he did not remember. He thought it a fine picture.

Dance I drank tea with.—He thought the picture at Christie's by Rembrant enchanting in the colouring, but so defficient in other respects that it was out of all bounds to ask 4 or £5000 for it.—Sir N. Holland did not think it was painted by Rembrant, it was too smooth, too polished; but, added Dance, He knows the quality of a picture better than who painted it.—Sir Francis Baring said "That He should prove those to be mistaken who imagined that He should give for it such a Sum as had been asked."

Perfection

June 13.—After breakfast called on Lawrence & went with Him to Christies & again saw the picture by Rembrant.—We called on Hearne who concurred with us in thinking it the finest picture of that master that had ever been brought into this country.—He said that a man of large fortune ought not to regard giving £1000 more than He might first intend for a work of such perfection.—He said notwithstanding the acknowledged excellence of the picture there were persons who had pretended to *doubt its originality.* Landseer had expressed a doubt, but on finding Himself likely to suffer from appearing to entertain such an opinion, said *Cosway* was the person who had declared against the originality of it.—After we left Hearne Lawrence took a Chaise & set off to Mr. Angerstein at Woodlands to induce Him to bid largely for the picture.—

Bought in

Christies I went to at 2 oClock & found the room crowded. Andrew Fountaine,—was there,—Lord Grosvenor, Lord Suffolk,—and many other Amateurs & many picture dealers were there.—At 20 minutes before 3 the Rembrant was put up for sale, it being the last lot. It was knocked down for 5000 guineas ; but it soon appeared to have been bought in.—On leaving the room I met Lawrence in Pallmall, coming to Christies, with an Authority, as He told me, from Mr. Angerstein to bid 4000 guineas for the Rembrant.—We went to *Christie* who told us that the picture *was bought in*, & would not be sold for less than 5000 guineas.—If that sum should not be obtained it would be taken abroad & offered to the French Museum, or kept by the Proprietors as a Corner Stone to support the credit of their future sales.

Turner I called on at His gallery, it being the last day of His Exhibition of His own works.—I also saw the first number of His publication of prints etched & acqua-tinted, from His designs, which was published on Thursday last.—*

Clergymen's Duty

June 14.—H. Hone [the artist] called.—He looked ill, & spoke of having been unwell, & something that dropped from Him signified that professional disappointment contributed to it.—He sd. that could He again go over the last 20 years He wd. pursue a different course from that He had done, & added that we make ourselves slaves to study for Landlords & taxgatherers.—He mentioned an anecdote of the Revd. Mr. Andrews, Minister of St. James's.—A poor woman some weeks since applied at the Vestry of St. James's Church & requested that one of the clergymen, there being two present, would go to Her Mother, who was then dying, and earnestly wished to have a clergyman to attend Her for a short time.—These Clergymen both declared that they were so circumstanced they could not go at that Hour. The woman then resolved to knock at the door of the Rector, Mr. Andrews, which she did, and communicated Her wish to a Servant who told Her she must go to the Vestry.—Mr. Andrews hearing a conversation, came forward & to Him the Woman told what had passed.—Mr. Andrews then lifted up his eyes and sd. " Vengeance may surely be expected to fall upon a Country where the Clergymen will not do their duty."—He then went with the woman to Her Mother & remained with Her more than an Hour, & in Half an [hour] after He left Her the Mother died.

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* Mr. A. J. Finberg in his admirable "History of Turner's Liber Studiorum," recently published by Messrs. Ernest Benn Limited (£5 5s. net), writes: "As the first five plates bear no date in the publication-line, it was long a matter of dispute as to when Part I. was issued. Fortunately, the matter has now been cleared up by the publication in the *Morning Post* on January 10, 1923, of the following entry in Farington's Diary:

"'June 13, 1807. Turner I called on at His gallery, it being the last day of His Exhibition of His own works. I also saw the first number of His publication of prints etched and acqua-tinted, from His designs, which was published on Thursday last.'

"In spite of the fact that Farington mistook the mezzotints for aquatints, and that he was not sufficiently interested in the engravings to mention the name of the publication, I think there can be no reasonable doubt that the first number of Turner's *Liber Studiorum* is here referred to, and that the entry establishes the date of publication as June 11, 1807—the 13th having been a Saturday."

Angerstein

Lawrence called in the even'g. Mr. Angerstein was with Him this morning, and went to De Cort's where He met De Lafontaine & purchased the " Woman taken in Adultery " by Rembrant from Him. He told Lawrence that De Lafontaine had desired Him not to mention the price that He gave.—At noon the picture was carried to Mr. Angerstein's. —Lawrence conjectured that Mr. A. gave 4000 pounds or guineas for it. —The Marquiss of Abercorn on Friday saw Lawrence's portrait of Mr. Pitt & thought it very like and wished to have it, & on finding it was painted for Mr. Angerstein, desired to have a Copy. He thought the mouth too severe.—

June 16.—Daniell called after which I was alone, but dined at Mr. Angerstein's at 5 oClock.—We looked at the picture of " The Woman taken in Adultery " by Rembrant, and our admiration of it encreased.— While at dinner a person called to whom Mr. Angerstein went out and on returning said He had paid to that person the money for the Rembrant.—He afterwards had a letter delivered to Him which having read He gave it to Lawrence to read & afterwards to me. It was from Walsh Porter congratulating Him upon the posession of the Rembrant, and supposing He might not wish to retain His other picture, " The Nativity " by Rembrant, offered to exchange for it the *Sea piece* by Rembrant which He had bought of De Lafontaine, but found *it too large for the place* intended.—Mr. Angerstein asked me *Yes* or *No* to the proposal. I said *No*, and afterwards united with Lawrence in recommending on no acct. to part with the *Nativity* as it wd. shew fine as it was, the vast superiority of the other picture when compared with any of Rembrant's other works.—*

Party Spirit

Mr. Boucheret† told me that whilst He was member of Great Grimsby He did for a considerable time vote with Mr. Fox & His party against

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* Sir Charles J. Holmes should be interested in the various opinions expressed in the Diary about Rembrandt's " Woman taken in Adultery," which is under his care at the National Gallery. He will note that it was not bought by " Clifford " for Mr. Angerstein, but " bought in " for Lafontaine, its owner.

Again, the Director of the National Gallery will be glad to know, for catalogue purposes, that the Nation might have lost the " Nativity " (" The Adoration of the Shepherds ") had it not been for Farington and Sir Thomas Lawrence.

† Ayscough Boucheret or Boucherette. See Index, Vol. III.

Mr. Pitt, but He became disgusted on observing how much they did from a pure spirit of opposition & to raise a clamour against the Minister. He related an instance, one of many, wherein Mr. Fox brought forward a charge upon a vague report, without taking any trouble to enquire into the truth of it. Mr. Pitt declared He never heard of the circumstance; but Serjeant Adair, who was of Fox's party, arose and declared that He had been applied to professionally, to prosecute the proprietors of a newspaper for publishing what Mr. Fox had made a charge, as it was an unfounded calumny.—It was stated to be a transaction which happened in Ireland.—

CHAPTER XLV

1807

Sir Joshua's Relatives

June 19.—I called on Saunders the Collector of the Income Tax. He told me the profits arising to him by a *percentage* upon what He receives in the district to which He is appointed including Charlotte Street &c. do not amount to £50 a year. He finds great backwardness in many & in those who ought to make handsome returns.—He told me that He was born at Great Torrington in Devonshire, & when a Boy was playfellow with Lady Thomond and Her Brothers: also with the present Countess Nelson who was Miss Young. The father of Lady Thomond was Mr. Palmer an attorney at Great Torrington who had three Sons and two daughters, by a Sister of Sir Joshua Reynolds. The second Son had a *Hair lip* which when He was an infant was sewed up by a travelling quack Doctor. Sir Joshua Reynolds obtained a Deanry for Him in Ireland, but at the commencement of the late Rebellion in that Country He brought His family to England & resides in Devonshire. He was a lad of dull parts. The second daughter married Mr. Gwatkin* of Cornwall.

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* Miss Theophila Palmer, who was referred to in the Diary on January 11th, 1923, was a niece of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the "My dear Offy" of his letter, dated January 30th, 1781, in which he wished that she and Mr. Robert Lovell Gwatkin, of Kellrow, Truro, Cornwall, her future husband, "may be as happy as both deserve . . . and you will be the happiest couple in England. So God bless you!"

Fanny Burney, in a description of a meeting at Sir Joshua Reynolds's house in Leicester Square, refers to young Gwatkin, the Cornish squire, making sheep's eyes at Offy, whose uncle, Sir Joshua, was very fond of her.

"I never was," he wrote to Offy, "a great friend to the efficacy of precept, nor a great professor of love and affection, and therefore I never told you how much I loved you for fear you should grow saucy upon it."

Dr. Johnson did not congratulate Offy on her marriage, because, as she told B. R. Haydon long afterwards, she had offended him when, at one of her uncle's parties, she (then a girl) had changed her dress before Johnson, the last guest to go, had departed. He was angry with her for showing less respect to him than to the people who had already left.

Mr. Gwatkin, her husband, was chief mourner at Sir Joshua's funeral. It may be added that Offy was the original of the charming "Strawberry Girl," which is one of the most popular pictures by Reynolds in the Wallace Collection.

Mr. Johnson who married another Sister of Sir Joshua Reynolds was a Woolen Draper at Great Torrington. His conduct in many respects was very improper and ultimately caused Mrs. Johnson to live separate from Him. Sir Joshua Reynolds obtained an appointment in India for Mr. Johnson's eldest Son, & Richard, the second son, also went to Bengal. The eldest died many years ago.—

A gentleman of the name of *Young* was at that time Minister of Great Torrington. He had several Children. One of them, a Son, is Mr. Young, Archdeacon of Norfolk. He married one of Mr. Johnson's daughters, a very beautiful woman. They now reside at Swaffham in Norfolk.—One of Mr. Young's daughters being with Her Brother, the Archdeacon, became acquainted with the Revd. James Nelson, Brother

A correspondent sends the following interesting notes about Sir Joshua Reynolds, Offy Palmer (his niece), and her husband :

Robert Lovell Gwatkin, of Kellrow, Cornwall, was at St. John's College, Cambridge, and thirteenth Wrangler, Sheriff of Cornwall 1789, and married Theophila Palmer, the "Offie" of Reynolds and Johnson, daughter of John Palmer, of Torrington, Devon, who married Sir Joshua's sister. "Offie's" elder sister, Mary, married the Marquess of Thomond, and died without issue. She lived at one time at Taplow Court, about 1810. Of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gwatkin's children the eldest son, Edward, Major-General H.E.I.C.S., M.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, married Hetty Elizabeth, daughter of Major Peter Gascoigne, and spent all his life in India, dying on his way home in April, 1855, and buried at sea. He was Superintendent of the Government Stud for providing remounts for the Indian Cavalry. His eldest son, John Reynolds Gwatkin, of Nonsuch, Wilts, married Emma Amelia, daughter of Lieutenant-General William Broome Salmon, H.E.I.C.S., Bengal Native Infantry. Of his children, the eldest surviving son, Joshua Reynolds Gascoigne Gwatkin, of the Manor House, Potterne, Devizes, is the only representative of this branch, in whose possession are the original portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gwatkin, Lady Thomond, and two portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds of himself as a young and as an old man. The well-known picture of "Simplicity" by Reynolds was taken from Theophila Gwatkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gwatkin, known affectionately as "Thé" to distinguish her from her mother ; she afterwards became Mrs. Lowther. This picture is no longer in the possession of the family.

"Offie" Palmer was Sir Joshua's favourite niece, who lived with him and saw to his comforts until her marriage. Her name Theophila was divided into the pet name of "Thé" and "Offie." Sir Joshua's playful verse on her names, it can be imagined, was used when she was superintending his breakfast table.

When I'm drinking my tea I am thinking of "Thé,"
When I'm drinking my coffee I am thinking of "Offie,"
So whether I'm drinking my tea or my coffee,
I always am thinking of thee, my "Thé-Offie."

Other interesting articles which belonged to Sir Joshua in possession of the present Mr. Gwatkin include a vellum sketch book containing crayon drawings, some of which were ideas for his pictures and some studies made by him in Italy, a notable example being the rough sketch for the celebrated portrait of Mrs. Siddons as "The Tragic Muse," in which she is represented seated and clad in a flowing robe with an ornamental border. In the same ownership are Sir Joshua Reynolds's paint-box, colours, palette and brushes, and an early Sheraton looking-glass on feet, which he used to place at such an angle as to reflect the portrait he was painting and so keep his sitter amused and interested. The paint-box also contains original letters from Reynolds and Burke congratulating "Offie" on her engagement, and also letters from Fanny Burney, David Garrick, Johnson, and Oliver Goldsmith.

to Lord Nelson.—Thus two peeresses come from two private families, both of whom owe their advancement to the extraordinary abilities & merit of two distinguished men. Lady Thomond inherited from Her Uncle [Sir Joshua Reynolds] the bulk of his fortune, & having by Him been introduced into the best Society after His death married the Earl of Inchiquin, now Marquiss of Thomond.—Miss Young participates in the Honour bestowed as a reward for the great services of Her Husbands Brother Lord Nelson & is now a Countess.—Saunders said that Lady Thomond must be 57 or 8 years of age.

Young the Actor

June 20.—Westall called to desire me to go to the Haymarket Theatre on Monday next to see Mr. Young,* Son of a Surgeon in the City, make His first appearance on a London Stage in the Character of Hamlet, He is abt. 27 years old, & has been Manager of the Theatre at Manchester by which concern He lost money.—His Father intended Him to be a Merchant & gave Him a suitable education. He speaks German fluently but His inclination to the Stage could not be surmounted.—

June 21.—Campion [the wine merchant] told me that Coll. Sergisson, the late Candidate for Sussex, has abt. £4000 a year in that County. His Father died while the Coll. was young, & His Mother managed His estate very improvidently & the Coll. has also accumulated debts. He was Lieutenant Colonel of the *Blues*, which rank was given to Him by the King *expressly* against the wish of the Duke of York.—He is considered a man of but moderate abilities.—It is supposed the contest for Sussex has cost Him & *Fuller* His opponent 10 or £12000 each.—Fuller was chiefly supported by the lower order of Freeholders who were jealous of an Aristocratick monopoly being intended,—to which, Lord Sheffield, by an imprudent expression, implying that the great men of the County had determined who should be members, gave rise.—Lord Sheffield has abt. £4000 a year in Sussex which He purchased from the *Delawar family*.—It is not known that Coll. Sergisson would oppose the present administration, but the contrary is rather expected.

Mrs. Campion had seen a person from Yorkshire who had supported Mr. Wilberforce. He said that Mr. Wilberforce was becoming daily more unpopular, & that had the election been continued 3 or 4 days longer he would have lost it. He is spoken of as an Hypocrite in his profession of Religion, for whilst He calls himself a member of the Church of England, He is building or encourages the building of Chapels & Conventicles for Sectaries. She added that it was said that He will never again be returned for Yorkshire—such are the floating opinions.

Origins

Lord Sheffield is a Yorkshire man.† His original name was *Baker*, to which He added that of *Holroyd*. From His own connexions of some kind He inherited a considerable fortune, for though He has been married two or three times He did not obtain much with either of His wives. It is said He was originally a *Clothier*, but that must have been in early youth. The present Lady Sheffield was a daughter of the late Lord North (Guilford) the Prime Minister.

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* Charles Mayne Young.

† See Index, Vols. I. and II.

Campion spoke of the great change in Mr. Angerstein's circumstances. At one period He was a Bankrupt; and the late Mr. Offley partner in Underwriting with Campion, when He wrote policies to Mr. Angerstein who acted as a Broker, whenever there was a balance due to Him at a settlement took the money, being unwilling to risk it by allowing it to stand against risks not determined.

An Ignorant Alderman

June 22.—Westall's I dined at.—Dr. Smith is eminent for his knowledge of Botany.—He resides at Norwich, but annually reads Lectures on Botany at the Royal Institution.—He told me that He is habitually temperate scarcely drinking any wine, as a few glasses have an inflammatory effect upon His constitution, in which the Lungs are easily effected.—He finds great refreshment from drinking *green tea*, at any hour, but *Bohea tea* has a contrary effect, making him heavy.—He spoke of Alderman Herring of Norwich, who has by perseverance obtained a Bill for paving & lighting that City, but is in respect of education a remarkably ignorant man.—Being deputed to wait upon the King with an Address, His Majesty observed to Him that "Norwich is an ancient City"—to which the Alderman replied "Please your Majesty It Has been a very ancient City."—He recd. a letter signed anonymous, and on being told by a person that He heard He had recd. an anonymous letter, He replied "Yes, very anonymous."

CHAPTER XLVI

1807

Dramatic Criticism

June 22.—The Haymarket Theatre I went to to see Mr. Young in Hamlet it being His first appearance upon a London Stage.—Lawrence was there & with Him I came away. I was much pleased with Young's performance & Lawrence said He was the best Actor next to Kemble, being superior to Pope or Elliston, but He did not think He would ever be a great actor: His voice superior to all others.—

[" The Tragedy of *Hamlet* was revived, at this theatre, last night, for the purpose of introducing Mr. Young, a gentleman of considerable provincial celebrity, in the arduous part of *Hamlet*, to a London audience. He was greeted, on his *entre*, with repeated plaudits. Mr. Young is middle-sized, and about thirty years of age, his figure is good, his action easy and graceful, his features are flexible and expressive, his voice is powerful and clear, and his under tones modulated to the expression of the most fascinating tenderness. He was completely master of his business, and displayed the judgment of a veteran in the execution. In the first and second act, there was much to applaud; but the scene with *Ophelia*, in the third act, and every subsequent scene, displayed such energy, and elicted such beauties, as called forth the most unbounded admiration of the audience. In the closet scene he was admirably supported by Mrs. Lichfield*—his attitude, the expression of his countenance, when he says "*Is it the King?*" the conflict between tenderness for his mother, and indignation for his father's wrongs, displayed extraordinary powers of discrimination, and excited a tumult of applause. The audience, indeed, were not prepared for such excellence. They were taken by surprise, and an enthusiasm seemed to pervade the whole house, of which there are few instances. When the tragedy was announced for repetition, the house rang with acclamations. —It was crowded with a brilliant audience."—From small note-book.]

June 23.—After breakfast I called on Mrs. Wheatley at Her Lodgings Nor. 8 Duke St. Portland Place.—She told me she was to be married on Thursday next June 25th. and to set off that day with Mr. Pope [the actor], Her Husband for Ireland.—She told me she had paid all Her Bills and did not owe Sixpence. When I left Her she expressed much gratitude for my kindness to Her.—

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* Harriet Hay. She was married in 1794 to John Litchfield, of the Privy Council Office.

Kemble and Young

Lawrence I dined with & He having the freedom of both play Houses, procured an order for me from Kemble & we went to see Kemble in Hamlet.

Hamlet	Kemble.	Queen	Mrs. St. Leger.
Polonius	Munden.		
Ghost	Pope.	Ophelia	Miss Belton.
King	Creswell.		
Laertes	Brunton.		
Horatio	Murray.		

Having seen Young last night in the Character of Hamlet, Lawrence was desirous that I should see Kemble in it.—The impression it made upon me was, that Kemble had more deeply studied the various discriminations and I thought He performed with more ease & less *manner* than formerly; but it forcibly struck me that He wanted constitutional power to go through the part with the vigour that Young last night posessed, & He looked *Old* in the Character.—Lawrence told me that Kemble has left off drinking *wine* by advice of His Medical friends & has more strength & better spirits since He left off that habit.—He however takes medicine.

Mother Goose was the entertainment this even'g, in which Grimaldi Junr. was very entertaining.—It was now performed the 92nd. time this Season:—but we were kept till a late hour. I did not get home till near one oClock.—

I saw Sir N. Holland there with a Young Lady who resides with Lady Holland.—*Grattan* of Ireland sat near me. Lawrence often meets Him & His family at Mrs. Crewe's & has remarked the affectionate & amiable intercourse they have with each other.—Grattan laughs at the rout Lord Howick is making against the present administration.*

Politicians and Great Men

June 26.—Hoppner I called on in consequence of His having called on me, but the Duchess of Athol was sitting to Him.† The Duke & 2 of His daughts. came into the Show room, where were several copies of Mr. Pitts portrait.—Lord Thomond I called upon but He was out. The

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* See Index of previous volumes for names in the last paragraph.

† In the catalogue of Hoppner's works, Mr. W. Roberts records portraits of the Duke and Duchess of Atholl and their son, Lord Charles Murray, but does not give the dates of the pictures.

Butler told me that His Lordship did *not mean* to attend parliament this session but had taken His *Seat & given His Proxy.*

Smirke's I dined at. Marchant* told us that He had lately much conversation with Mr. Coke of Norfolk upon political matters. Mr. Coke said it wd. have been well for this Country *if Mr. Pitt had never been born.*—Marchant talked with Mr. Dudley North† about the late change of Administration. Mr. North said that had Mr. Fox lived things wd. not have gone as they had done; that the late Ministry being possessed of power used it with too much confidence.—Lord Downe‡ told Marchant that the loss of great men was now felt. The Political Men all want to be Masters.—

Robert Smirke told me that Lord Oxford had informed Him that He last night signified to the *Grenville's* & *Howicks*, that He should no longer act with them.—He told Robert that they had no feeling but for power & influence & He saw no reason why He shd. forsake the *Portland connexion* which to him was a near relationship, for such purposes.—Lady Oxford strongly supports Him in this, & both dwell upon the improper conduct in their private lives of Lords Lauderdale, Howick &c.—

[Died June 6th. Dr. John Wasdale in New St. Spring gardens, aged 76, formerly of Carlisle; private Secretary to the Duke of Norfolk. At the Coronation of his present Majesty He went from Carlisle to London on Horseback in 28 Hours, & returned in 30 Hours, after an absence of five nights three of which He slept in London.

On the 24th inst. Lady Abercorn gave a grand Masquerade. Lawrence was there in the Character of Anhalt; and Hoppner in a Domino. From small note-book.]

To Marry an Heiress

June 27.—The young Duke of Newcastle is sitting to Lawrence. He is soon to be married to *Miss Munday* an Heiress with £7000 a year,§ which He stands in need of not having, it is said more than 3 or 4000 pounds a year. His grandfather, the late Duke, had a strong prejudice against the present Duke's Father & *Mother* who was of the Harrington family, & left away from the present Duke all that He could, even to the old plate.

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* Nathaniel Marchant, R.A. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Dudley Long North (1748-1829) was second son of Charles Long, who married Mary, second daughter and co-heiress of Dudley North, of Little Glemham, Suffolk, and granddaughter of Sir Dudley North, financier and economist (1651-1691), whose views anticipated those of Adam Smith and Locke.

In 1789 Dudley Long assumed the name of North, in compliance with his aunt Anne's will. He was one of Fox's most intimate friends, and the Whig party owed much to his famous dinners. North was a manager in the Warren Hastings Trial, closely associated with Sir Joshua Reynolds, Edmund Burke, Gibbon, Dr. Johnson, and Mrs. Thrale, and was a generous supporter of Crabbe, the poet. He sat in Parliament for many years.

‡ Fifth Viscount, was created Baron Dawnay of Cowick, co. York. See Index of previous volumes for other names in this entry.

§ The fourth Duke of Newcastle was married on July 18, 1807, to Georgiana Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Miller Mundy, of Shipley, Derbyshire. The Duke died in 1851, the Duchess in 1822.

After tea we walked & were joined by [Dr.] Carlisle, who said much against the use of wine, & that flesh meat should be eaten abstemiously: but vegetables He strongly recommended. He thought half a pint of wine a day too much.—Sir Joseph Bankes never eats flesh meat or drinks wine or spirits. He lives upon Pudding & Vegetables only,—and his fits of the gout have since been more moderate.—

CHAPTER XLVII

1807

Jerningham and Fox

June 28.—Lawrence dined with me to-day.—Lord Aberdeen went with him today to see *the Rembrant* at Mr. Angerstein's, with which He was highly delighted, & said it appeared to Him like a real scene looked at through the small end of a Telescope.—His Lordship ordered a copy of the Portrait of Mr. Pitt painted by Lawrence.—Lady Chatham was again with Lawrence today & said finally " That His portrait of Mr. Pitt was beyond comparison the most like of anything that had been done."

Lawrence dined at Lord Hampdens lately. Mr. Edwd. Jerningham* was there & told several anecdotes of Charles Fox. One was, That Charles & His Brother Stephen having one day pressed their Father Lord Holland to give them money, at last, His lordship sd. " Let me have no more applications There is a draft for £500 for you." With this they retired, but instead of obtaining the money & dividing it, they sat down to gaming for the whole of it.

June 29.—Lord Gardner told me He was in the House of Lords on Friday night till the Divission at 3 in the morning & that His legs were then much swelled with sitting so long.—He told me again that He had spoken to Lord Mulgrave to make William [Farington's nephew] a Commander, and that His Lordship had put His name down, but at present was afraid to open the door to promotion.—But said His Lordship when He is made a Captain, He will not be *able to get a Ship*, so many are the applications. I replied that we were thankful for all that through His Lordships kindness had been done for Him, and should patiently wait for what might in time be obtained.

A Scandal Monger

Daniell's I dined at. Richd. Smirke told me that lately at the

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* Edward Jerningham (1727-1812), poet and dramatist, a friend of Lords Chesterfield and Carlisle, and Horace Walpole, who referred to him as " The charming man." See Vols. I., II. and III.

Literary Club at the Chapter Coffee House* He was present when *Tuffin* was there an invited guest, and occupied the attention of the meeting a long time by recapitulating the evidence produced against the P——s before the Commissioners, and Her reply to the several charges. The Commissioners acquitted Her of the *criminal part of the charges, but declared Her conduct to have been very reprehensible.*—Tuffin seemed to think that enough was given in evidence to give full reason to believe Her unfaithful.—The names mentioned by Tuffin of persons who had been in situations to be suspected with Her were,—Sir Sydney Smith;—Captn. Hood;—Captn. Manby & Lawrence. One evidence stated that the P——s had been seen dressing in Sir Sydney Smith's Clothes, while He had only a Chemise and Bedgown on & that they were dancing together. —It was also attempted to be proved that she had been delivered of a Child, a Boy, which was brought up in the House.—Many other circumstances He related.—He had read a stolen Copy of the report.—

I told Richd. Smirke that whatever might be the impression on Mr. Tuffins mind the evidence did not produce such on the minds of Lord Eldon & Mr. Perceval as with *their concurrence*, I had been informed, she intended to publish it in Her own vindication, but forbore from doing it it being the wish of K. that she should not.—

Richd. Smirke sd. He noticed the *characteristic* remarks made [by] several who *were present* while Tuffin related what He had read.—At the conclusion of it *Horne Tooke* said, upon that part of the defense of P. which stated that the male child which was in the House under Her protection had been taken from people in a low situation from a charitable motive, "*Aye, the Old story of Moses in the Bullrushes being found by Pharaohs Daughter,*"—*Frend*, said "*Well who cares whether she is guilty or not.*" Porson (the Greek scholar) began to compare these proceedings with what had taken place in the Courts of Charles 2nd. & James 2nd. & became absorbed in recollecting many curious particulars which He had met with in manuscripts. He thought the present better times than those in respect of morality.—

William Etty

July 2.—Lawrence called. His new pupil, the nephew of Mr. Etty,† Banker, is come to Him this morning, & is to pay 100 guineas for instruction for one year.—

I talked with Lawrence this morn'g abt. *raising His prices.*—I told Him it appeared to me decidedly that Hoppner's mode of painting is so much more slight than His, that Hoppner could paint at least 3 pictures in the time that He could paint two. He admitted it.

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* This coffee-house stood at the corner of Chapterhouse Court, on the south side of Paternoster Row, and was a resort of literary men. It was closed as a coffee-house in 1854 and altered to a tavern.

† William Etty, afterwards a Royal Academician.

[On July 16th it was announced that Lawrence had raised His prices for pictures as follows :

	Gs.		Gs.
A Three quarter from	40	to	50.
A Kit Kat from	50	,,	70.
A Half length from	80	,,	100.
A Bishops Half-length from	100	,,	120.
A Whole length from	160	,,	200.

—From small note-book.]

Eminent Statesmen

The Honble. Wm. Lambe,* who is in parliament & with [the] Opposition, called upon Him this morn'g.—Lawrence asked Him who is the best speaker in the House of Commons, After a pause, He said, Canning is the best speaker ; He has more *genius*, more wit, & more eloquence than any other.—Perceval at business is a very clever fellow. They beat us, said He, in the House of Commons.—

July 3.—Lawrence came to tea.—Lord Kenyon† is a sensible young man. He made yesterday some remarks on Lord Grenvilles speaking in the House of Lords,—said He spoke with great ability & *dextrously*, having the art to slur over or to avoid such matters as He cannot well answer.—This when discovered, is, however, as His Lordship observed, a disadvantage to Him, as He weakens the confidence of those who are inclined to trust in what He says.—Lord Kenyon now supports the Government against Lord Grenville.—

Lord Minto‡ is a very sensible man—in conversation calm & eloquent. He spoke of the abilities of *Fox*, and said He was great in *discussion* in the House of Commons, but His Lordship thought little of Him beyond that.—He spoke of Pitt, Burke & Fox.—After allowing everything of genius, imagination, and talent to Burke & speaking of the nature of such qualities, He finally said, That *Judgment* is the first quality of the human mind, being that, which, seeing the whole, appreciates and decides upon it, and in justly so doing bears more affinity to omnipotence than is expressed by any other effort of the mind.

Willm. Lambe said Lord Castlereagh in debate expresses His thoughts in ordinary language, but there is generally a great [deal] of substantial matter in what He says, In this opinion Mr. Lambe agreed with Sir Francis Baring.

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* William Lamb (1779-1848), who became second Viscount Melbourne, entered Parliament in 1803 as a supporter of Fox. Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1827, he, on succeeding to the peerage, was made Home Secretary under Earl Grey from 1830 to 1834, and was twice Prime Minister.

† George, second Lord Kenyon. See Index, Vol. III.

‡ See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

CHAPTER XLVIII

1807

A Famous Architect

July 4.—Robert Smirke called & shewed me a letter which He had this day received from Lord Lonsdale. It was recd. by His Lordship from Lord Bathurst promising to *His Lordship* the appointment of *Architect of the Mint* to Robert Smirke.*

[**July 5.**—Died, recently, at Ford in Northumberland, aged 85, Mr. Robert Saunderson, who served as Ordinary Surgeon to General Wolfe, at the Memorable attack on Quebec, and was the person represented as supporting the British General after He had got his fatal wound. He often boasted that He was the person who shot General Montcalm, the French Commander at that place.—From small note-book.]

Constable Declines

July 6.—Constable I met & He mentioned that Stothard had spoke to Him abt. putting down His name to be an *Associate* & He wished to have my opinion. I gave Him to understand that it was not probable that He wd. be elected, but He might put down His name to make it familiar to the members if He thought proper; at the same time it was to be recollected that the true impression was to be made by works of merit to be distinguished.—He sd. He should decline for the present.—

[In the Sheriffs Court Mr. Thomas Sheridan† had a verdict against him—Damages £1500 for Crim. Con: with Mrs. Campbell wife of Mr. Campbell the Son of a gentleman of large property in the West Indies.—Mr. Campbell is abt. 39 years of age & Mrs. Campbell abt. 33 years old. The Crime proved took place above 3 years ago, February 1804 at Edinburgh.—No defense was made.—From small note-book.]

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* Smirke (1780-1867), who received the appointment, was the eldest son of Robert Smirke, the painter, and architect of the British Museum, the General Post Office, the College of Physicians, and other public buildings. Elected A.R.A. in 1808, he became R.A. in 1811 and was knighted in 1832. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Tom Sheridan, elder son of R. B. Sheridan, and father of three daughters famous for their beauty and talent. The eldest became Countess of Gifford, the second Lady Stirling-Maxwell of Keir, and the youngest Duchess of Somerset.

Ignorance and Acid

July 7.—Rogers* at Sir F. Baring's to-day proved His ignorance of pictures & art. He took a picture by *Wouvermans* to have been painted by *Wilson*, the most opposite practise that can be.—

At Willm. Spencers† afterwards Sir Henry Englefield said that [Payne] *Knight* has declared that the picture by Rembrant of the Woman taken in Adultery is a damaged picture; that the head of our Saviour has been rubbed almost to extinction.—This caused a cry against Knights judgment, & Rogers sd. plain speaking was best, that Knight knew nothing of pictures, & was becoming an Old Woman.—The approbation He gave to *Westalls Flora* was considered an additional proof of his bad taste.

Opie was spoken off, & His penurious disposition was remarked upon. It was mentioned that a person happened by mistake to take Opie's great-coat & found in one of the pockets pieces of crust of bread, & meat &c.—such as might have been expected in that of a Beggar. Sydney Smith who was present said "The very scrapings of penury." —Smith observed "That Opie sometimes said hard things,"—meaning of strong sense & observation.—

In the course of conversation acrimony of disposition was noticed as prevailing in certain persons, on which Smith said, "Oh for the true Acid, give me the pure vinegar of Hoppner."

Sheridan and Athol Brose

C. Offley's I dined at. Sandeman‡ told us that when Sheridan was in Scotland two or three years ago, He drank very hard. He was hospitably entertained by the Duke of Athol, which made a strong impression on him, & caused Him to support the Duke's claim to further remuneration for what He had sold to government in the *Isle of Man*. —Sheridan was particularly fond of a liquor prepared for Him by order of the Duke called "Athol Brogue" [Brose] a mixture of *Whiskey & Honey*, which He drank in larger quantities.§ Afterwards in London while He was supporting the Duke in His claim, He was frequently with the Duke's agent Mr. Frazer of Lincolns Inn.—One morning He told Frazer He was dry & asked him what He could give him. Frazer took him to a House in Serle St. belonging to Frazer & there began to prepare for him some whiskey & Honey, but while He was so employed, Sheridan on looking round had found a *Bottle of Shrub*, & before Frazer had made the *Athol Brogue* [Brose] Sheridan had drank all the Shrub.*

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* Samuel Rogers. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† William Robert Spencer (1769-1834), a well-known poet and wit. See Vol. I., page 292.

‡ Mr. Sandeman, wine merchant, 20, St. Swithin's Lane, Lombard Street.

§ Dr. Charles Mackay says that Athol brose was composed of Whisky and Honey [some authorities add oatmeal] taken as a morning drop; a powerful and indigestive mixture, that no one but a Highlander out in the open air and in active exercise during the whole day can safely indulge in. Why it is named from the district of Athol in preference to any other part of the Highlands is neither known nor perhaps discoverable.

Sir Walter Scott, in the "Heart of Midlothian" speaks of a "morning draught of Athole brose." And Neil Gow sang—

"An' aye since he wore Tartan trews,
He dearly lo'ed the Athole brose,
And wae was he you may suppose,
To play farewell to whisky."

Sandeman sd. He had a few days ago dined with Mr. Maltby who rents a House belonging to the late Mr. Thelusson who made the extraordinary Will. He said He had seen an acct. of the profits of the year 1795 gained by Thelusson amounting to £83,000.—He left £700,000 to accumulate till His Great, Great Grandson should be of age.—To His widow He left £2000 a year & the House in which Maltby resides.—It is doubted whether Lord Rendlesham His Son has a large fortune: He has no concern in business.—†

Mrs. Offley told me that the Revd. Mr. Simeon‡ had mentioned to Her that in composing, writing & preaching the matter of 5 volumes of subjects for and Skeletons of Sermons He had employed 7000 *Hours*. He appears to live by rule, noting the manner in which He passes His time.—

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* Shrub was a drink made with the juice of orange or lemon (or other acid fruit) sugar, rum, or other spirit.

† See Index, Vols. II. and III.

‡ The Rev. Charles Simeon. See Index, Vol. III.

CHAPTER XLIX

1807

A Romantic Story

July 8.—Mr. West called on me in the evening, & informed me that Mr. Desenfans* died this afternoon, of which He had been informed by a note from Mr. Morris, nephew of Mrs. Desenfans [after a long illness occasioned by bursting a blood vessel.—aged 61.]—West remarked that no man could appear to suffer greater anxiety & distress of mind than Desenfans did when He saw & from what He heard of him, proceeding from reflecting upon His own conduct.—West then told me that when the Cardinal of Poland brother to the late King of Poland was in England Desenfans paid very great attention to him & Bourgeois was always at his service. The Cardinal went away impressed with their kindness & caused the King of Poland to appoint Desenfans Consul General for that Country, & to give the Order of Knighthood to Bourgeois,† which was confirmed to Him here by His Majesty acknowledging his title when Bourgeois was introduced to him by the late Duke of Leeds, then Secretary of State, who had been induced by Desenfans so to do.

The Cardinal's Casket

When the troubles in Poland rose to such a heigth as to break up the government of that country, the *Cardinal* sent a casket to *Desenfans*, in which he inclosed jewels & property belonging to Himself & the King his brother, to be taken care of by Desenfans. This Desenfans told to West, but said the Casket had been robbed of the treasure it contained before it came to his hands. It was not long after when both the Cardinal and the King died. West said that before this period Desenfans was rather a needy man, but then set up a carriage & lived rather expensively, & had since undoubtedly a command of money which some of our nobility had proved by obtaining assistance from Him. West said Desenfans certainly never made the money which enabled Him to proceed as He had done but by other means than picture dealing only.—Some years ago, He requested West to be a Trustee for His affairs, He being at that time apprehensive that He should die; and this He alluded to when West went to him to be reconciled to Him & signified "That West wd. find *He had not forgot that kindness*."—In this last illness He had declared that West had been his best friend by countenancing & recommending Him in His dealings in pictures, & by bringing the King to see His collection exhibited in Pallmall, which raised His name in that capacity.—West said that Desenfans had expressed His opinion of Bourgeois "That He had a good disposition, but a weak head."—

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* Noel Joseph Desenfans, a Frenchman, was born at Douai in 1745. The Desenfans pictures and other possessions left to Bourgeois were bequeathed by him to found the Dulwich Art Gallery. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† Sir Francis Bourgeois. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Boaden* told Fuseli that Bourgeois has reported that Desenfans had £8000 a yr. in the Funds, besides a collection of pictures worth £40,000.—

C. Whitefordet† told me that Desenfans' death was caused by a total breaking up of his Constitution, and that the effusion of blood at one time, was an effect of it.—He left Bourgeois all His pictures; & His two Houses; and one half of His other property, amounting, it is understood to £20,000. He left one legacy viz: to Kemble £100.—The Will was made about four years ago.—Mrs. Desenfans is to have the other half of the property not devised to Bourgeois.

Napoleon Defeats the Russians

West then spoke of the affairs of the Continent, and of the defeat of the Russians at Frederickstadt on the 24th of June, manifestly owing to their having been *out-generalled*. He said the schemes of Buonaparte are vast & prospective. He sd. the Persian Ambassador had been with Him in His Camp, & had returned to Persia attended by 25 or 30 French Officers, for the purpose of [instructing] them in the European art of War; evidently with a view of attacking the English power in India.—

July 9.—Marchant [R.A.] spoke of Beechey's‡ behaviour at Mr. Penns having dined with him there three times. Each time He slept after dinner; and shewed His vulgarity & improper familiarity, by addressing Mr. Penn with "my good Fellow."—

He spoke with great contempt of the publication called the *Artist* & sd. He had never heard it mentioned by any one. Prince Hoare the Editor, is water gruel witht. Salt. He has the power of meeting the Types; His work is still born.—Northcote wrote in it & makes an Artist first a Puppy,—next an Ass,—and then a Horse.—He read only 3 or 4 of the numbers & has thrown the others aside.—

Mr. Angerstein called on Fuseli the day after He had purchased the picture by Rembrant, & smiling said He (Lawrence) will ruin me.—Fuseli dined with him that day: & now said of the picture that the Background is the finest part of it,—and the whole very fine; but the figure of our Saviour is difficient in Expression, the arm ought to be extended to accompany the words "Let Him that is witht. Sin, throw the first stone." Rembrant has in general in this picture, unlike Himself, failed in expression.—

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* James Boaden, editor of the *Oracle*. See Vols. I., II. and III.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

‡ Sir William Beechey, R.A. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Professional Wits

July 11.—Lawrence I dined with. He dined with Rogers on Thursday last where He met Lady & Miss Crew,—the Hon: Mr. Lyttleton* & the Hon: Wm. Spencer, and Mr. [Francis] Horner† &c.—He remarked on the laborious task which a professed wit has to perform, as He has always to keep up a Character for saying brilliant things, & to Whip & spur His jaded Hack, however otherwise disposed. It was evinced on that occasion by Wm. Spencer in a contest with Lyttleton for superiority, which was unsuccessfully carried on between them & often coarseness for wit, till Spencer was wearied.—The subject was "Jonah in the Whale's belly."—Lady Crew sd. when they had finished, "She hoped they had had enough on that subject."—Sydney Smith, Lawrence thinks, has an advantage over all these wits. It flows from Him more easily & naturally than from any of them. He noticed this to Rogers, who admitted that He had great readiness & of thought, but a bad manner, that is, not an elegant deportment.

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* Probably William Henry Lyttleton, afterwards third Lord Lyttleton (1828). In 1813 he married Lady Sarah Spencer, eldest daughter of the second Earl Spencer. Of him Creevy said in 1833, "Lyttleton having married, and being very poor, could not afford to continue in Parliament, and tho' he wanted little to enable him to do so, the meanness of Lord Spencer would not supply him with it, and he has been an exile almost ever since. Tho' grown very grey for his age (he was born in 1782), he is as lively and charming a companion as the town can produce, and they are said to be the happiest couple in the world."

† Francis Horner (1778-1817), born in Edinburgh, was a politician, and joined the leading Whigs in founding the *Edinburgh Review*. A portrait of him by Raeburn hangs in the National Portrait Gallery.

CHAPTER L

1807

Style, Profligacy and Speaking

July 11.—Yesterday Lawrence dined with Sir H. Englefield where he met Mrs. Wm. Spencer, Sotheby,—Rogers—and [Francis] Horner—Style of writing in the English language was conversed upon,—and after much had been said, it was allowed by all present that Sir Joshua Reynolds, in His Lectures, wrote with more purity & simplicity than any other modern writer, & might for the excellence of His style in that respect be compared with Addison ;—having clearness, ease, and no affectation.

Horner resides in the Temple, & writes in the Edinburgh Review, Lawrence thinks Him a man of very good understanding & principles with much information.

Sheridan was spoken of and many instances related of His profligacy with respect to women were mentioned ; and his having seduced several who were in degrees *related to Him* & attempted others.—At one period it was dangerous for a woman of character to be left in a room alone with Him as He often succeeded by their terror of being discovered when He made a sudden & desperate attack upon them.*

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* Mr. A. Brinsley Sheridan, Frampton Court, Dorchester, Dorset, writing on Jan. 23, 1923, says : Having read in the *Morning Post* of January 17th an attack on my illustrious ancestor, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, by Farington in his Diary, I feel that I must be allowed to say a few words in his defence.

It seems to me to be a great pity that, after all these years, his memory should be thus maligned, and that he should not be allowed to rest in peace. Anyone who has read Vachell's life of Richard Brinsley Sheridan would know what a very gallant gentleman he was, and how courteous to the fair sex, and any statement to the contrary is false and a calumny. In those days political jealousy knew no bounds, and it is to this that I attribute Farington's attack.

Supposing Sheridan to be all that the virtuous Farington makes him out to be, is it possible that he should have been a personal friend of the King's, and would it be likely that his second wife should have been a daughter of the Dean of Westminster ?

Also, would such a roué as he is described have been buried in Westminster Abbey or

Lawrence noticed a day or two since to the Hon: Wm. Lamb, How much it is the object of many, at present to obtain reputation for fine speaking in private Society; in so much, that it has almost become a theatrical passion. Oh! sd. Lambe, you mean *Sharpe*,—Really added Lawrence these fine talkers now speak of the manner in which another has acquitted Himself in conversation as if they were speaking of a public performance.—When a new man comes among them & expresses Himself with good effect, Sharpe afterwards noticing it has said, "Very well, we must hear him again"—meaning a further trial.—

Athletics

[This morning, at 3 oClock, Mr. Pearson started from Pimlico to go on foot to Datchet Bridge near Windsor for a wager of 100 guineas, & to return to Pimlico, the distance which He had to perform was upwards of 37 miles. Mr. P. started on a shuffling walk, and arrived at Hounslow (ten miles) at a quarter past 4 oClock, where He took some light refreshment, and halted again at Colnbrooke (17 miles) at 25 minutes past 5 oClock, the half of the distance having been performed in 2 Hours & 40 minutes. Half the time had expired within a few minutes and bets ran two to one and three to one against the performance. The Pedestrian quickened his pace back, and arrived at Hounslow at 5 minutes past 7 oClock, a good deal fatigued. He had an hour and 25 minutes to perform the last 10 miles, and by great exertion He did this in three minutes less than the given time. He was a good deal fatigued, and the performance was considered wonderful at this season of the year.—From small note-book.]

R.A. Domestic Troubles

July 13.—West I called on. He spoke of Mrs. Hardy, the House Keeper at the Royal Academy having resigned that situation. He said the Academy was all in disorder.—Fuseli attended to the students better than any former Keeper had done, but totally disregarded every-

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have had such touching lines written on his death by Moore—"Mourn, England, mourn," &c.?

It is hardly possible also that he would have been chosen by the men of Stafford to represent them in the House of Commons if all Farington says of him had been true.

If Sheridan were alive to-day he certainly would have changed the name of Sir Benjamin Backbite in his "School for Scandal" to Sir Farington Backbite.

Let Honour live where Honour is due.

[We gladly publish Mr. Brinsley Sheridan's letter. In justice to Farington, however, it should be said that he was merely recording what Sir Thomas Lawrence told him of a conversation which took place at a dinner given by Sir Henry Englefield to some friends, including Mrs. William Spencer, wife of the poet and wit, William Sotheby, a well-known author, Samuel Rogers, the poet, and Francis Horner, one of the founders of the *Edinburgh Review*.—Ed.]

thing else. Richards [the secretary] & He, though under the same roof had not seen each other since Opie's funeral.—Mrs. Fuseli is said to be of a fierce temper.—He sd. no person will suit the place of Housekeeper there but one of the degree of a menial servant.

Remarkable Prediction

July 14.—[From Vienna accts. were recd. that on the 24th of May, at Constantinople, The *Mufti*, at the Head of the Malcontents, repaired with 300 Janissaries to the Seraglio, and read to the unhappy Sultan a list of his pretended Offences, recited passages from the Koran, which declared Him on acct. of those offences, unworthy of the Throne and ordered Him to sign a renunciation of it. Selim did, & begged His life. The mufti promised to intercede for Him. His person was then secured, & 14 of His Ministers were put to death. Couriers were sent to the Camp & the Dardanelles to arrest and strangle the Grand Vizier & the Captain Pasha. On the 25th. of May, a Proclamation was published in Constantinople, to announce to the people that the Sultan had been dethroned, and to make known His offences, & the passages of the Koran which condemned these offences. On the 26th. Mustapha, the Son of Achmet, was proclaimed Grand Signior. On the 27th. He sent an Order to Selim to take poison. Selim obeyed, and died in a short time. During the whole of this revolution but few disorders were committed. The Mass of the people took no part at all; so that this Catastrophe is attributed to some chiefs of parties yet unknown to the Janissaries. All foreigners were ordered to be respected. It is assured, that the Grand Vizier made no resistance to the order sent Him & was strangled. Of the Captain Pasha nothing is known. The Grand Vizier had gained some successes before He died: He passed the Danube at Ismael, & forced General Michaelson to retire from Wallachia to Focsany & Reinnick. The new Administration is entirely composed of persons devoted to the Janissaries.

The discontent, occasioned among the people by the scarcity of provisions, and among the Janissaries by the European exercise and discipline, furnished the enemies of government with an occasion to excite an insurrection which cost the unhappy Sultan his Throne & His life.—From small note-book.]

[Dr. Carlisle] mentioned a remarkable prediction in *Moores Almanack* published in *Decr. last* for the year 1807.—In the predictions for the month of *April* it is stated,—

"*Near this time* the Turkish Emperor dies, or it may be He hides His Head, His People are tumultuous; if He can save His life, let Him, I give Him fair warning of it."

Now it has happened that on the 24th. of May, which may be called *near the time* viz: the end *of April*, Selim, the Turkish Emperor was dethroned and imprisoned.

July 15.—We talked of filling the 2 vacancies of Academicians. We agreed that Howard ought to be one; and that Calcott wd. be a more agreeable member than Philips if the Academy shd. be disposed to it.—I noticed Westmacotts defficiency of execution which He assented to.—He [Thomson] admitted that [James] Ward had a claim to be an Associate; but that He is a vulgar man of abrupt manners; but there is no objection to Him on any moral principle.

CHAPTER LI

1807

A Successful Portrait Painter

July 15.—The Lease of Opies House in Berners Street was sold to Lonsdale, a Portrait Painter, for £1250, there being abt. 55 years unexpired.* At the sale of Opie's effects everything went for High prices.—

Porden† said a Picture cleaning tribe of dealers in old pictures have at present prejudiced Lord Grosvenor's mind so far against the merit of modern art as to interrupt His design of making a Collection of modern pictures; but in time this prejudice will be done away.

A Clever Family

Clarke, who is now writing the History of Lord Nelson in conjunction with *McArthur*,‡ is a native of Suffolk, and Son of a Clergyman.—His elder Brother is Dr. Clarke, who reads Lectures at Cambridge; He is abt. 38 years of age, is of a very vivacious disposition; in company a great talker; Has travelled far to the North; & is now married to a young Woman, daugr. of Sir Willm. Rush, & had £10,000 with Her.—The youngest of these Brothers was Captain Clarke of the Navy, who unhappily, abt. two years ago was drowned in the River Thames while on a pleasure party,—while attempting to save a friend, the Son of a Banker.

July 16.—Lysons called being returned from Gloucestershire. He found much antiquity in Devonshire while on his late tour. The country is all Hills cultivated and Enclosed to the top; not picturesque; but the Rivers and mouths of Rivers very fine. Dartmouth the finest, most picturesque [in] appearance He ever saw.—He went down the

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* James Lonsdale, born in Lancashire in 1777, studied under Romney and at the Royal Academy. He was one of the Founders of the (now Royal) Society of British Artists, and an exhibitor at the Royal Academy. He died at the Berners Street house in 1839. By him in the National Portrait Gallery are portraits of Sir Philip Francis (Junius), Lord Brougham, Nollekens, Queen Caroline, and others.

† William Porden, architect. See Vols. I., II. and III.

‡ John McArthur, LL.D.

River Dart from Totness to Dartmouth, a distance of 13 miles, & returned with the ensuing tide: left Totness at 9 in the morning & returned abt. 8 oClock at night. The Revd. Mr. Froude, Rector of Dartington, 2 miles from Totness accompanied them. He married Miss Peggy Spedding.*

Life in Old Quebec

Mrs. Brooke called accompanied by Her eldest daugr.—She brought me a sketch of Rome made by Wilson, which I lent Her Husband, & now gave to Her as she has Wilson's picture of this view.—She told me Her friend the Bishop of Quebec† has not settled the business of His Church establishment with government and must remain Here another season. He likes the Climate & Country of Canada; the air is pure, & everything is upon a great scale. Though born in Norfolk, & a strong man; and though He did not leave England till He was towards forty years of age, He now finds the air of his native Country does not agree with Him. Since He came from Canada, He has constantly had an irritation from the *Uvula* down to His breast, with something of soreness & a slight cough.—Mrs. Mountain, His wife, an Englishwoman, does not perceive any difference in Herself; but she complains of suffering more from *Cold* here than when at Quebec owing to the defense against cold not being here so general & well contrived. At Quebec they have flues in the walls of their Houses, which give an equal warmth to the whole House.—What they chiefly complain of in Canada is, the great length of their *Winter*, 8 months, with Snow upon the ground during at least 5 months of that period.—After the Ice breaks in the Spring the arrival of the first Ship from England causes much agitation among them; a mixture of desire of information & apprehension of what it may be.—Sometimes an overland dispatch from New York arrives in the Winter at Quebec, but it is attended with great expence: a letter may cost 2 or 3 guineas.

The Bishop lives upon very friendly terms with the principal Roman Catholic Families established at Quebec: but feels that the Protestant Religion is not properly supported there. The Roman Catholics have their processions &c. & much to impose upon the minds of the people & to draw them into that persuasion.—His object, in England is to induce our government to make the Episcopal establishment at Quebec compleat, which, in his opinion, wd. have a sensible effect in favour of our Religion.

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* Robert Hurrell Froude (1771-1859) was the father of James Anthony Froude (1818-1894), the eminent historian and man of letters. The elder Froude graduated B.A. from Oriel College, Oxford, in 1792, and M.A. in 1795. He was rector of Denbury from 1798 and of Dartington from 1799, and Archdeacon of Totnes from 1820 until his death. He married Margaret Spedding, of Mirehouse, Cumberland, and she died on February 16, 1821, aged forty-six years. Their daughter Margaret, who married William Mallock, became the mother of Mr. W. H. Mallock, author of the much-discussed work, "The New Republic." J. A. Froude said of his father that he "had a moderate fortune of his own, consisting chiefly in land, and he belonged, therefore, to the 'landed interest.' . . . His children knew him as a continually busy, useful man of the world, a learned and cultivated antiquarian, and an accomplished artist. Some of his pencil drawings were highly praised by Ruskin. . . . About doctrine, evangelical or catholic, I do not think in my early boyhood I ever heard a single word, in church or out of it."

† The Rev. Jacob Mountain. See Index, Vol. III.

Landseer's Father

I dined & was the evening alone,—except John Byrne calling to inform me of his change of residence from 79 Tichfield St. to 54 John St.—He has a Lease for 21 years, at a rent of £47.—His eldest Sister paints Flowers;—Letitia, his second Sister *at home*, is employed in etching views for a Mr. Amsinch, of Tunbridge; and His youngest Sister, etches & engraves.—They keep only one Servant. John Byrne is employed in engraving views for Cadell & Davis to accompany Lysons's work; but has now no share in it.—Mrs. Byrne lodges in Cleveland Street.—He spoke of the passion which Landseer* always had for writing. While pupil to J. Byrne's father, when any difference arose between them He would not, though they worked together in the same room, express by words anything He might have to say, but would write a letter, and lay [it] upon His masters table, who was impatient at His losing so much time for such a purpose.—

[The Committee of the House of Commons on the Petition of the British Museum, have reported that £4,925, is a reasonable price for the Lansdowne Manuscripts, which it is intended to purchase & deposit in the British Museum.—From small note-book.]

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* John Landseer, A.R.A., engraver, father of Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A. See Vols. II. and III.

CHAPTER LII

1807

Angerstein and a Rembrandt

July 20.—Marchi called.—Had been 3 weeks at Taplow,—Lord Thomond out of spirits respecting Continental affairs.—On hearing of Mr. Angerstein's purchase of the Rembrant, as said, for 5000 guineas, "Two Hundred & fifty pounds a year to look at a picture daily."—He added "the French will come & take it back."

Dance called to settle abt. dining today with Marchant.—Palmer's Post *office case* is expected to come on today in the House of Commons.* The report of the Committee is very favourable for Him. Mr. Lethbridge, Sir John Newport &c. are warm for Him.—Mr. Long, on His examination before the Committee was gentlemanlike & not Hostile to Palmer.—Rose & Wm. Dundass are decidedly against Him.—He hoped to obtain arrears to the amount of £60,000, & to have £10,000 a year for his life.—Mrs. Palmer, His *late* wife, had something of insanity abt. Her.—One of His Sons, intended for the Church, was very extravagant, & Shot himself.—

Fuseli and Pitt

Fuseli while looking at Mr. Pitts Bust said "It wd. have been well for this Country if He had not been born in it. He brought us into the state we are now in. Had He left the French to themselves, in all the matter of their *Revolution*, England wd. now have given *Law* to the *World*.—He shd. have done as other powers did during our Civil Wars, who when they saw a King beheaded & Cromwell rise still did not interfere."—I asked Him, as He is a great advocate for Physiognomy, what He thought of Mr. Pitt's Bust [by Nollekens]. He said there was great power expressed in it abt. the *forehead ;* and *Haughtiness* in the *mouth ;* that *perseverance* & *obstinacy*, were strongly manifested.—

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* John Palmer (1742-1818) was a successful brewer and tallow-chandler and a member of an old Bath family. He succeeded his father also as a theatrical proprietor in Bath, and there introduced Henderson, King, Elliston, Mrs. Siddons, and others. Palmer's business led him far afield, and in his journeying he noted the slow service of the State Post. In 1782 he projected a scheme for conveying the mails by stage coaches, and after much opposition it was tried in 1784 and finally became successful. Two years later he was appointed Comptroller-General of the Post Office. Subsequently Palmer was dismissed, and Pitt in 1793 granted him a pension of £3,000. He, however, claimed remuneration for his services beyond his pension, but it was not until 1813 that Parliament paid him £50,000 without affecting his pension. Palmer's struggle with the various Governments cost him £13,000. He died at Brighton on August 16, 1818.

Grattan and Perceval

July 21.—Lawrence I dined with.—He was at Lady Crew's* party at Paddington on Friday last.—Grattan, Sharpe, Rogers, Horner &c. &c. were there.—He noticed Sharpe's vanity, who had come from the House of Commons & sd. He had "*vexed the Treasury Bench cursedly*" by ironically noticing the *Sincerity* of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, (Perceval) & the *Veracity* of the *Secretary of the Treasury*, (Stourges Bourne).†—Lawrence saw that Grattan did not approve this, & a little while after Grattan spoke of Perceval & said, " He is a Bigot in Religion, which is to be disapproved, but there is *Sincerity* in what He does, and upon such a subject, when that is the case, allowance is to be made." —He also spoke of His talents in such a way, as made it manifest that He thought well of Him, & was in contradiction of Sharpe,—who made use of another vulgar expression, saying " *The Ministry must be licked up*." Grattan did not support Him in this manner of talking. He did not know that much good wd. be *done by* " *licking a ministry* up," and as to sincerity allowance must be made for all Men in office. He could say of Himself that when He was in a situation to have interest, He had been applied to [by] one whom He had known, who wished for an appointment & to save trouble named one of £2000 a year. To this impudent proposal I ought *in sincerity* to have told Him that He was foolish & unreasonable ; but I was not *sincere with Him*, and replied that I was sorry I could not comply with His request.

Grattan sd. He condemned another kind of Bigotry more than that of Perceval.—Forster,‡ the Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer, He sd. was a *Bigot* in *Politics* which is a very bad quality.

Poet and Actor

Kemble returning home one evening having drunk much was in a carriage with Sharpe, Rogers, & Lawrence. He spoke of Rogers poem " The pleasures of Memory," & told Rogers that It was faint, & a little womanish ; but there were many very good lines in it : but added, after having written that How could you think of publishing yr. " *Epistle to a friend* " (Sharpe) one of the most wretched things that ever was written.

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* Frances, daughter of Fulke Greville, wife of the first Baron Crewe of Crewe. See Vol. II., page 96.

† William Sturges-Bourne (1769-1845), politician, was the only son of the Rev. John Sturges, Chancellor of the diocese of Winchester. On the death of his uncle, Francis Bourne (who took the name of Page), the bulk of his fortune came to Sturges, who assumed the name of Bourne.

‡ John Foster, Baron Oriel. See Vol. I., page 250.

—The next morning Kemble recollected what He had sd.—and has never since been invited by Rogers to His House.—

[The Sums expended from the 1st. of June, 1803, to the 1st. of January 1805, for the Volunteer Service, amounts to the Sum of "One million eight hundred and thirty four thousand, three hundred and eighteen pounds Sixteen Shillings." The total [number] of Recruits enlisted in England & Ireland in 1806 was 10,783; in the present year 9,194, have been enlisted in England alone.—From small note-book.]

Greeks Ignorant of Anatomy

July 22.—[Dr.] Carlisle called, and talked of a Plan of making the public exercises of the Pugilists,—a school of study for artists who study the Human figure.—He repeated what He had asserted in His Essay published in the *Artist*, that the Greeks had little or no knowledge of anatomy; so little had they discriminated the parts which compose the human body, that they had but one word, to express *muscle*, *fibre*, *Nerve*, *&c.*—He referred His opinion to Payne Knight who has studied the Greek authors deeply, & He agreed with him, That the Greeks had *little or no knowledge of Anatomy*. It was from constantly contemplating the form & action of the finest human figures in their public exercises that the Greek Artists conceived that abstract idea of sublime & pure form which we see in their statues.—He said that the study of anatomy in the manner in which many modern artists have done it has frequently produced an affected & false display of their knowledge of it, so as almost to *skin their figures* most unnaturally.—*Le Fage*, who had been bred a Surgeon was a strong instance of this false representation of the human figure.—He said *Barry* had studied Anatomy with great attention, more than many Surgeons do; yet it did little for Him as an Artist,—He drew but indifferently, & His figures were ill put together.—He suggested one mode of studying the Human figure; to draw a line marking the forms of the principal muscles on a figure standing witht. motion; & then observing the shifting of these muscles in any action into which the figure might be thrown.—In a school for study such as He wd. propose, the figures shd. of course exercise *naked;* and to *Pugilists*, He wd. add Tumblers &c. to obtain as great a variety as possible.—

W. Wells I dined with.—We dined a little after 6.—Mrs. Wells, Senr. told me she was acquainted with the first Mrs. Angerstein, whose first Husband, Mr. Crokatt shot Himself, but the Ball lodged under His ear, & did not kill him, but He died of a *Locked Jaw*. Mrs. Crokatt had a fortune of £20,000, which was settled upon Her & went to Her Children.

CHAPTER LIII

1807

Ague and Arsenic

July 23.—Thomson & Owen dined with me.—Thomson while He was in Italy was much afflicted with fever. He also had the *Ague*, at Naples, for which He took *Bark* witht. it having the least effect, which caused a Neapolitan Physician to give Him two Pills which He took upon the symptoms of the *ague fit* commencing; and in a very short time He felt a *warmth* throughout, and the fit repelled & from that period He has never had a return of it.—The Physician afterwards told Him it was *Arsenick* which He had given Him.—This remedy is known to our Physicians, but must be used with very great caution; & like other violent stimulants, may eventually bring on *Paralysis.*

Cosway's extravagance in conversation was mentioned. Owen sd. that at the Council, on Monday night, it being noticed to Cosway that He was not at the Academy dinner on the Kings Birthday, He sd. "I *was there & witnessed all that passed*," meaning to have it understood that He was there *but invisible*, being then in a *spiritual capacity.*—He rejoiced extremely at the Victories of Buonaparte.—

[The effective force of the Volunteers, in Great Britain, by the last returns amounted to Three Hundred and Twenty nine Thousand Three Hundred and forty-six men.—From small note-book.]

Peace with America

July 24.—Caleb Whiteforde told me that He had lived in habits of intimacy with Dr. Franklin Twenty-five years, during which period they lived next door neighbours in Craven Street, Strand. It was on acct. of this known intimacy between them, that He was selected by our Government to go to Paris to obtain *confidential* answers from Dr. Franklin, to prepare the way for terms of peace being concluded upon with America.—Whiteforde obtained from Franklin all the information required, & by so doing prevented another year of *War*, which would have otherwise been so much longer continued.—He said, it was not the wish of many of the American Leaders to separate from this country, but after national animosity had arisen to a high pitch, they were obliged to go with the stream.—The Federalists in America, are the people of respectability & Property, and are well disposed towards Great Britain & inclined to draw the Union of the two countries as close as they can. With these was *Washington;* so is *Adams;* but *Jefferson*, the present President of the United States, is wholly inclined to France, in which country He had long resided,—& He is supported by the Democrats & Jacobins.—

[**July 25.**—Shipping.—The number of British Ships employed in the trade of Great Britain in the last year, was—

	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Inwards	12,448	1,482,664	88,988
Outwards	12,251	1,486,302	94,337
Foreign.			
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Inwards	3793	642,994	31,554
Outwards	3459	568,170	29,632

—From small note-book.]

A River Party

July 27.—At ½ past 3 today I went with Lawrence & General Campbell to Mr. J. Wolff's at Sherwood* near Battersea we proceeded by water, where we arrived a little before 5 oClock, & found a Tent made of Colours, placed upon a carpet spread upon the Lawn before the River. In this a little before 6 we dined.—We had *Turtle*,—with 2 *courses*,—Champaigne,—Claret,—Madeira,—Port,—& Punch for the Turtle.—A Desert of Fruit with Ices,—everything very handsome.—Abt. 7 oClock the *Annual Sailing Boat race* for a Silver Cup given by Mr. Barrett of Vauxhall, passed in our view, & was saluted with Cannon by Mr. Wolff. In a pleasure Boat was Mr. Barrett with several Ladies, also Palmer of the Post Office,—and *Topham*.†—About 9 oClock we went into the Salon to tea & about 10 oClock the party broke up & I was taken in Mr. Goldsmids Coach to Vauxhall Gardens gate, & there parting with them proceeded home, where I found Lawrence waiting for me.—Mr. Goldsmid‡ I found a very civil man, not having the least appearance of being a Jew, but Mrs. Goldsmid and Six Children of theirs, had all of them the look of their people.—

Freedom of the Seas

[The Journal in Paris announces that at the dinner at Tilsit, at which the Emperor of Russia & Buonaparte were present, the following Toast was given "*The Freedom of the Seas.*" Also that Guillet, the person who went to Mr. Fox to propose to Him to assassinate Buonaparte, and who was taken up on his arrival on the Continent, died a few days ago (dated July 9th) at the Bicetre, where He was confined.

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* Jens Wolff, Danish Consul in London. See Vol. III., page 97.

† John Topham. See Vol. III., page 50.

‡ Abraham Goldsmid, of Morden House, was a stockbroker, who was joint contractor, with the house of Sir Francis Baring, for a loan of fourteen millions. Owing to financial difficulties he committed suicide on September 28, 1810. See Annual Register for that year.

On Friday night last, or Saturday morning Lady Frederick Campbell was burnt to death in Her Bed at Coombank, owing to the Curtains of Her Bed having taken fire, caused by Her falling asleep while reading in bed. She was abt. 70 years of age, & was the daugr. of Amos Meredith Esqr. and Sister of Sir Wm. Meredith Bart. In 1752 she was married to Earl Ferrers, the unfortunate Nobleman who was executed at Tyburn, in 1760, for the wilful murder of Mr. Johnson, his Steward; she was divorced* from Him by act of parliament & after His death, in 1769, married Lord Frederick Campbell brother to the Duke of Argyll.

In the debate in the House of Commons yesterday upon the *Defense* Bill, Mr. Canning said, That the Conscription established by the Rulers of France was not an absolute *personal Conscription.* Substitutes were allowed to be provided, although certainly they were not to be provided at so cheap a rate as in this Country, for He happened to have the opportunity of knowing, that about two months ago, the price of a Substitute in France was 200 guineas.

July 29.—This day (Wednesday 29th) Mr. Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that £10,000 be granted to His Majesty to remunerate Dr. Edward Jenner, as a further reward for promulgating His discovery of Vaccine Innoculation: to be pd. witht. *any deduction.*—Mr. Morris moved an Amendment, That £20,000 be inserted instead of £10,000,—Seconded by Sir John Sebright.

For Mr. Morris' amendment	60
Against it	47
	13

Mr. Perceval persisted in his proposal to give only £10,000.—From small note-book.]

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* Constance Lady Russell writes: Mr. Farington is quoted as writing that Lady Frederick Campbell "was divorced," which was not the case. On the contrary, this lady obtained on June 20, 1758, an Act of Parliament for separation (not divorce) from her first husband, Lord Ferrers, "for the cruelty of the said Earl." In February, 1758, Horace Walpole writes to Sir Horace Mann as follows: "A frantic Earl of Ferrers has for this twelve month supplied conversation, by attempting to murder his wife, a pretty, harmless young woman—having broken the peace to which the House of Lords tied him last year, the cause was tried again there on Friday last."

CHAPTER LIV

1807

Lord Thurlow

August 5.—Lawrence I dined with.—He mentioned the opinion given of the late Lord Thurlow by Mr. Smith, Judge Advocate in India, who knew Him well & said That Lord Thurlow's was anything but a straightforward "Judicial Understanding",—that He doubted, & cavilled at everything & decided nothing.

August 6.—W. Wells* I dined with.—Mr. Hallet spoke of several persons who from a low beginning had made great fortunes. He mentioned a Leather Breeches maker, of the name of White, who formerly resided at *Tarperley* in *Cheshire* & made Leather Breeches for the gentlemen of that *Hunt*. Being recommended by them He came to London & settled in St. Albans St. & now resides in Bond Street, & is said to be worth £150,000.—

Lawrence called on me in the even'g. The wife of a Colonel now at *Stralsund* with Lord Cathcart, has recd. a letter from the Colonel in which He gave a very unfavourable acct. of the *King of Sweden*.—That He is a kind of Madman but witht. the strong determination of one upon the point which posesses the mind; on the contrary He is irresolute & changing incessantly; has shown great anxiety for His own personal safety; and in all that respects Himself is very fastidious, requiring all possible parade in approaching His person.—Lord Cathcart & the Officers are disgusted & disappointed, & wish themselves elsewhere.—

Sheridan Spoke Well

August 8.—Lawrence came to breakfast.—He was last night at the House of Commons, and remarked on the great inferiority of the speaking compared with what He had formerly heard.—Canning was the best.—Sheridan was drunk, but spoke well—Wilberforce spoke well.—Windham with little effect. His action & His voice (changing His tones) all are expressive of His vanity.—Perceval indifferent, & Lord Castlereagh worse.—I went with Him to Brown's, the Colourman, with whom He opened an account.—

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* Of Redleaf, collector of pictures.

August 9.—[This day [the 9th] a Proclamation, by Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, appeared, dated Washington, July 1st, 1807.—" Requiring all armed Vessells bearing Commissions under the government of Great Britain, immediately & witht. delay to depart from the harbours and waters of the United States ; and that should any of them fail to do so, or shd. hereafter enter, all supplies & intercourse is prohibited with them,—Unless Vessells forced in by distress—by the dangers of the Sea,—or by the pursuit of an enemy,—or with dispatches from their government, in which cases supplies shall be had."—From small note-book.]

August 11.—Daniell [R.A.] called.—His tour to Wales with Davis & Wm. Daniell, cost them abt. 45 pounds each. They were out a month, took a *Chaise from London*, & had Post Horses.—Their rule was to have a Bottle of wine at dinner, & they dined late having no Supper.—

Women

August 12.—Lawrence I dined with. He mentioned a marriage which had produced little happiness to the female. She a woman of elegant mind, taste, & much sensibility : the Husband a man of narrow understanding, without pursuit or employ ; neither seeking for knowledge or rational amusement : lolling on a Sofa till 2 oClock ; then riding a while before dressing for dinner.

In addition to this he was jealous of other friends being desired by His wife ; and not polite in obliging Her.—Of another Lady he sd. that Her Father in Law, said of Her " *That she was a single page* "—What she is you see at once ; & nothing is produced by more acquaintance with Her mind.—

Lawrence sd. He had occasionally been much struck by the force of certain expressions.—He never has forgot what a woman once said when He was present, " Everything must have its results."—

[On the 4th Inst. a poor woman residing at Lahinch near Enniskillen, in the County of Clare, was safely delivered of 5 children, 3 sons and 2 daugrs. who with the mother are in a thriving way.—

Note : Mr. Hayes* told me that several instances have been known of 5 children being produced at one labour, but *never more*, and in all the instances of 5 Children being thus born, none have lived beyond a short time.—From small note-book.]

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* Sir John Macnamara Hayes, M.D. See Index, Vols. II. and III.

CHAPTER LV

1807

A Reynolds Sale

August 14.—Lady Thomond I called upon at Eleven previous to the Sale of the pictures left at Sir Joshua's late House in Leicester fields to be disposed of.—At 2 oClock I went to the Sale & found in the room few but Picture dealers & Brokers.—Lord Mulgrave just looked in, and S. Rogers came, & bought 2 landscapes by Bolognese* much touched upon by Sir Joshua & on this acct. Rogers valued them highly.—Snell was the Auctioneer.—

The Pictures *bought in* were knocked down at	£426	6	0
The Pictures *sold* were knocked down at	297	3	6
	723	9	6

Sampson & Dalilah, a Copy from Vandyke, but bought by Sir Joshua, *unseen*, at the recommendation of Caleb Whiteforde for 300 guineas sold for	£68	5	0
Theory, the original design & picture from which the picture by Him, in the Cieling of the Library in Somerset Place, Royal Academy was painted	63	0	0
A very bad imitation of Rubens, viz: Diana and Her Nymphs, for which Lord Thomond at a Sale gave 22 guineas, sold for	48	6	0
S. Rogers bought the 2 landscapes touched upon by Sir Joshua for	21	10	6

Constable

August 15.—Constable called. He told me that Young Reinagle† lost a great deal of money by His Panorama Speculation in the Strand in which He engaged with One of the Son's of Barker, proprietor of the Leicester Square Panorama.—Reinagle now *teaches drawing* & in consequence of the great success of *Glover* in selling His drawings of views of the Lakes is gone to that Country accompanied by *Havil* to store themselves with subjects for drawings.—Two or three of Old Reinagles daughters are now copying *parts of pictures* (the whole of any picture is not allowed to be copied but by express permission) by old Masters lent for this season to the British Institution; They told Constable that in painting these copies they begin with *water colours only* upon a *raw canvass*, over which they pass lightly some oil to fix the colours & make them *bear out*, & then touch upon such parts as may require it with oil colours. This, they said, their Father declared to be the only way of copying the pictures of Old Masters successfully.—They work very quick, & said, "Picture painted one day,—sold the next,—money spent the third."*

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* Giovanni Francesco Grimaldi (1606-1680).

† Ramsay Richard Reinagle, son of Philip Reinagle, R.A. Ramsay, also an Academician, had to resign his diploma owing to having exhibited as his own work a picture, by J. W. Yarnold, which he bought at a broker's shop and slightly altered before sending it to the Academy. See Vol. III., page 255, and the D.N.B.

The Best Man in the World

Lady Thomond I drank tea with, & found Her tolerably well satisfied with the result of the Sale.—She told me that Fulk, the owner of their late House (Sir Joshua's) in Leicester Square [now Puttick and Simpson's auction rooms], asks £300 a year rent for it, also that the *property tax* upon that shall be paid by the tenant; also that £500 shall be laid out in repairing the House at present; and that it shall be painted throughout once in every 2 years or 2 years and a half.—

She spoke of Lord Thomond, who is at Taplow, in the highest terms. She said, There is not such another man in the world: He is the best man in it. In trifles He is irritable in the extreme; but in everything of moment calm & firm; bearing whatever may happen with fortitude. —She spoke of His strong & just sense of Religion; of His generosity; & His universal kindness,—& while she did it, it was with tears.—She spoke of His fine constitution, saying, "it Had the purity of that of a Child." His wounds heal without care.—The fever which had nearly carried Him off in August 1804 was owing to His riding to Taplow on an excessively hot day. It was a *Coup d'Soleil*.—His servant was affected by it.—When He got to Taplow, He did not take care of Himself, but immediately rode abt. His grounds; but on returning home & dismounting from His Horse, he fell back against some paling quite overcome. Dr. Ferris of [B] happening to come there, & was much alarmed, & urged His Lordship to take a Chaise & return to London, not *trusting to have His Lordship's case in His hands*.—The next day His Lordship did so, & came to Lady Thomond in Leicester Square very ill. The fever continued upon Him 27 days, & He was often delirious.—

His life was saved by Sir Francis Milman. His Pulse was 120, and Sir George Baker, the other Physician, pleaded for the *old practise*, that of *lowering Him*. Sir Francis, on the contrary urged that the

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* See previous volumes for Old (Philip) Reinagle, John Glover and William Havell.

Constitution shd. be supported & insisted upon three large *glasses of Madeira* being given to His Lordship *every day;* saying, if we once lower Him, we shall never be able to raise Him again, & He will sink & die: but we can at any time *lower Him* if circumstances shd. require it. His Lordship had great repugnance to taking the wine, it felt to Him, like oil on fire: & He had some how understood that Sir G. Baker disapproved it. The wine, however, He was induced to take & He recovered.

A Saintly Bishop

Lady Thomond spoke of *Dr. Moss*, the present Bishop of Oxford.—A friend of His died & left Him £10,000.—Dr. Moss having learnt that He had two Maiden Sisters not very well provided for, gave up to them the whole of what had been bequeathed to Him.—He also gave up a living of £800 a yr. to a friend in the Church who was unprovided for.—

Mr. Metcalfe is at Brighton much recovered; but has lost the sight of one of His eyes. His acquaintance there attend at His good dinners, & He has not been induced by the coldness of the *Prince* [of Wales] to quit that place.*

Sir William Scott, Judge of the High Court of Admiralty is very rich.—He gave in His Income sometime since at £17,000 a year.—He has one Son & one daughter: the latter is told by Her parents that she is not to expect to have a large fortune: all their minds is upon their Son in this respect.—They are remarkable Oeconomists.

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* Philip Metcalfe, F.R.S., F.S.A., who was a friend and one of the executors of Sir Joshua Reynolds, had offended the Prince. Metcalfe, who was very wealthy, gave £500 to his niece Frederica, "to buy her cloaths," on the morning of her marriage in 1790—she was born in 1763—to James Muir or Mure (as the family spell the name), second son of Baron Mure of Caldwell, in Ayrshire, a well-known Scots family dating from 1329. Frederica's granddaughter, Mrs. Charles King, owns a copy of a miniature of her grandmother by John Downman. See Vol. I., pages 95 and 273, and Index of Vols. II. and III.

CHAPTER LVI

1807

Gossip at Lady Thomond's

August 18.—Lady Thomond I drank tea with. She had been to visit Her aunt, Mrs. Reynolds, who is ill of a fever.—She told me that Mrs. Fitzherbert has lost Her influence over the P.——.—He is now devoted to the *M——ss of H——d;* to whom while they were in London, He constantly went every day & staid from three oClock till 5.—He now complains that Brighton is too cold for Him, & is going to Cheltenham, which is only 15 miles from Ragley in Warwickshire, the seat of the M——s.—I remarked that the M——ss is not young; she replied that notwithstanding she is an extraordinary fine woman, a *Juno*.—It is supposed the P—— got the *Garter* for the M——s, and is to make Him a Duke.—

The P—— is inveterate against the P——s & she is so much upon His mind, that He lately introduced the subject unexpectedly to a Gentleman who mentioned it to Lord T[homond]. The P—— sd. He had formed an unchangeable resolution never to set His foot in a House *in which she dwells*.—He believes everything to be true that has been alledged or insinuated against Her.—

Of the Sons of the Royal Family, Lady T[homond] believes the Duke of Cumberland to be the best. He now goes to Church regularly, & has left off swearing. The Duke of Cambridge is thought to be the next best.—The daughters of the Royal Family are the comfort of the King, and His Majesty is very fond of them.

Lord Thomond is now out of favour with the Prince of Wales, which may be owing to His Lordship holding intercourse with, & inviting to dinner, the Duke of Cumberland. The Prince does not now *notice His Lordship* when He meets Him in Company.—The Prince expresses His dislike of the Duke of Cumberland in an extraordinary manner: having forbid the young Princess, His daugr. to speak to the Duke, when she sees Him.—The Prince appears to be recovering His Health.—

A Great Project

August 19.—Dance told me that *Rennie*,* the Engineer, has been consulted by government abt. insulating a projecting point of land a little above Gravesend, by cutting a channel across the land where it projects, & on this Island, when made such, to form a *Depot*, as a *substitute for Woolwich*, which by being accessible by Ships, & not easily attacked by land wd. be a more secure Depot.—The calculation of expences to do this seemed to be immense. Ten *millions* was *the estimate reported.*

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* John Rennie, of Waterloo Bridge fame.

[The value of property insured in the different Fire Offices in Great Britain, in 1806, was about £200,000,000, and in the United Kingdom about £270,000,000.

Yesterday the price of Bread was 11d. ½ the quartern Loaf Wheaten, and 10d. Household.

Advertisement in a newspaper. "The Proprietor of the two wonderful Siboya Serpents, now exhibiting at the large rooms No. 22 Piccadilly, begs leave to inform the Nobility & Gentry, and others, that from the numerous applications he has received of Noblemen & gentlemen to see those extraordinary Reptiles devour their Prey, they will have a public dinner on live Rabbits this day, at 3 oClock, which is expected to be attended with a numerous assemblage of Ladies & Gentlemen. Admittance each person 2 shillings."—From small note-book.]

He Knew Piranesi

August 20.—Lewis* told me that He went to Italy in 1770, and returned in Decr. 1772.—At the time He left England He was 19 years old.—He knew *Piranesi*† well and sd. He was extremely vain of His works and was sensible in the extreme to flattery.—

Lewis kept a *Diary* or Journal while He was abroad, but lately destroyed it.—He wrote it in Italian, and being conscious it was written very incorrectly, as He wrote in that langage as an *exercise* in it, He became unwilling that it should fall into the hands of those who might remark upon it.—Had he had a Son, brought up to His own profession He wd. have preserved them.—He spoke of Sir Robert Taylor,‡ the Architect, & sd. He was a very early riser, & did His business in the fore part of the day, & in the evening recd. in His night gown & slippers those who called upon Him.—

Lewis sd. that Soane had pulled down parts of the *Bank*, particularly the *Rotunda*, which was designed by Sir Robt. Taylor, & has built in the room of it one in a much worse taste.—Cockerell remarked upon it, That Soane in this had displayed some understanding, as by pulling down that which Sir Robert had built, it could no longer be a reproach to Him by its contrast to all the bad taste which He, Soane, had manifested in every other part.

August 23.—Lysons called,—dined with Sir J. Banks§ yesterday at Spring-grove, near Hounslow.—Champaigne & Burgundy *on the table* with other wines.—Sir Joseph never takes either flesh meat or wine.—Lysons reckoned that He has an income of £14,000. His Lincolnshire estate £8000.—His Derbyshire estate £3000; and Lady Bank's estate in Kent £3000.—She was Miss Higginson, *coheiress* with one of the wives of Sir Edward Knatchbull.*—In the evening the company went to inspect a quantity of bones found at a depth of twelve feet at or near Hounslow—Mammoth Elephant—no human.

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* James Lewis was an architect.

† Famous architectural draughtsman.

‡ See Index, Vols. I. and II.

§ See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

August 24.—Lawrence & Lysons called & with them & Fuseli I went to Mr. Angerstein's at Woodlands [Blackheath] to dinner.—We dined at 6 oClock.—We remained at Woodlands till near 11 oClock.—Six Pines upon the table,—2 Cut. Other fruit.—Claret, Madeira, Port,—Hock,—White Port.—We saw Lawrences picture of 4 Children of Mr. & Mrs. J. Angerstein which He began the week before last at Woodlands.—Mr. Angerstein told me that the estate He has bought in Norfolk or Suffolk, formerly belonging to Lord Mountrath,† contains 6000 acres of land,—poor land which He is endeavouring to cultivate, but wd. not live there if it were given to Him upon that condition.—He told me his habit now is to ride every morning before breakfast from ½ past 7 for an Hour and a half to two hours,—breakfast at 10,—go to London to City business abt. 11 and return a little after 5.—In October He annually goes for 2 months or so, to Mr. Boucheres‡ in Lincolnshire, abt. 160 miles from London, & there He *hunts* almost daily, beginning with 2 or 3 hours, & increasing to 4 or 5 hours: but His Hunting is for air & exercise & not to perform feats.—

[Effective strength of the British Army on the 1st of June last,—

Cavalry, British 23,295. Foreign, 3020—Total..............	26,315.
Infantry, British 129,263. Foreign 27298.—Total............	156,561.
Militia, British 53,810. Foreign 24180.—Total..............	77,990.
Grand Total:	260,866.

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* See Index, Vol. II.

† Charles Henry Coote, seventh Earl of Mountrath, died at Strawberry Hill, Devonshire, on March 2, 1802, and the Earldom became extinct. Lord Mountrath's dread of small-pox was so great that he had relays at five houses between his seat in Norfolk and his home in Devon, in order to prevent the possibility of infection. He would not sleep at an inn, and ordinarily led the life of a recluse. Rarely seeing anyone, except on business, he was found to be on these occasions always most friendly, polite in manner, and refined.

All his estates, real and personal, with trifling reservations in England, were bequeathed in fee to Lord Bradford, his maternal relation. He left £6,000 for charitable purposes.

‡ See *note*, Vol. III., page 258.

The public Revenue of England was, in

1100.—	£100,000.	1500.—	£400,000.
1200.—	100,000.	1600.—	500,000.
1300.—	100,000.	1700.—	4,000,000.
1400.—	100,000.	1800.—	30,000,000.

—From small note-book.]

CHAPTER LVII

1807

A Famous Banker and Actress

August 27.—Called on Fuseli. We talked of raising his Salary to £150 a year.—He dines at Mr. Coutts the Banker, *every Sunday* when Mr. Coutts is in town. The party consists of Mr. & Mrs. Coutts, Lady Guilford & Lady Burdett. Mr. Coutts keeps a very handsome table; & Champaigne, & Burgundy, are *put on the table* with other wines to be drank at pleasure.—Mr. Coutts is 74 years old. He has Shakespere by heart; & can repeat the following line to almost any that can be quoted.

Sir Francis Burdett dines with *Horne Tooke*[*] every Sunday & sometimes sleeps there on that night for a month together. Excepting his intercourse with *Tooke* He is almost always at Home, being very domestic. —*Bosville*[†] is one of the party at Tooke's.—

Mr. Coutts assured Fuseli He had nothing to do with Sir Francis Burdetts last Election, having told Him that in other things He might command Him, but in that matter He should take no part whatever.—

The paragraphs in Newspapers, insinuating that Mr. Coutts has an Amour with Miss Mellon, the actress, are most unfounded, He being a most domestic man & attached to His old wife.[‡]—Fuseli thinks His spirits lately have not been so good as usual, which possibly may be owing to these squibs in the papers.—

Great Banking Firm

Coutts Trotter[§] I went to & waited some time. The Old Porter told me that Mr. Coutts has now 26 Clerks ; including 3 *Cashiers,*—& 4 Clerks who go out daily,—one to Somerset House,—2 to the City, & one to the West end of the town.—Formerly there was only one Cashier.—

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[*] See Index, Vols. I. and II.

[†] William Bosville (1745-1813), celebrated *bon vivant.* See the D.N.B.

[‡] Thomas Coutts, banker, said to be "the richest man in London." His long intimacy with Harriot Mellon was consummated, after his first wife's death, by his marriage to the famous actress in 1815, he then being eighty years old. Coutts died in 1822, and she was married on June 16, 1827, to the ninth Duke of St. Albans. Scott, whom she visited at Abbotsford, thought her a kind woman, "without either affectation or insolence in the display of her wealth." She was handsome, generous, and vivacious to quick temper. Born in London about 1777, the Duchess died in 1837.

[§] Coutts Trotter, of Berners Street, was married at Hendon on June 12, 1802, to Margaret Gordon, youngest daughter of Lord Rockville, brother of the third Earl of Aberdeen. He was created a Baronet in September, 1821, and died in 1837.

Mr. Coutts has now 3 partners ; viz : Mr. Antrobus,* who is a native of Congleton in Cheshire & was formerly a Stock Broker, & resided in Bank Buildings. He has been with Mr. Coutts 27 years.—Coutts Trotter, on His coming from Scotland, was first a Clerk in the Navy Pay Office, under His Brother Alexander Trotter, Deputy Paymaster under Lord Melville.—Coutts Trotter has been a partner with Mr. Coutts about 10 years.—The third partner is Mr. Majoribanks, brother to Captn. Majoribanks the India Director. He has been with Mr. Coutts abt. a year & a half & is abt. 28 or 30 years old.—

Fuseli remarked to day that Mr. & Mrs. Coutts visit the Marquiss of Bute, their Son in Law, both at Petersham & Luton, but said Fuseli, " The Marquiss is a *Satrap ;* He *never visits them.*"

Lord Rivers had two Sisters ; one of them married to Peter Beckford, whose son, Horace Beckford, the nephew of His Lordship, will be His Heir. Horace lost £30,000 in gaming. Mr. Coutts, & Messrs. Farrer & Co. Solicitors, advised His Lordship not to pay the debt, but an arrangement has been made for that purpose.

Fuseli and the Princess

Lord Rivers has brought the Princess of Wales, twice or three times to see Fuseli, and she has expressed an intention to purchase pictures from Him when she has money.—He said Her *manner* is so familiar, too familiar for Her station, that it is difficult not to be led by it into some degree of forgetfulness of what is due to Her high rank & station.—

Daniell I dined with. Smirke told us that Opie's first wife, the daugr. of Mr. Bunn, a Pawnbroker in the City, had 2 natural Children, a Son & a daughter, before she was married to Opie. The Son was apprenticed to a watch-maker, but being imprudent got into difficulties, & being in a state of necessity stole a watch, which being proved against Him He was sentenced to death and was seen in Newgate in that state lately. He related to an acquaintance of Smirke His progress in life, & said that from Newgate He had written to *His Mother*, having through His Sister discovered who she was, and recd. an answer from Her expressing surprise at the discovery but conjuring Him never to apply to Her again unless He meant to be the cause of *Her death.*—He did not apply to Her again. The theft being His *first known offence* it is supposed He will only be transported.—

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* Edmund Antrobus, who was created a baronet on May 22, 1815, and died unmarried in 1826. Sir Cosmo Gordon Antrobus, fifth baronet, is the present representative of the family.

Fonthill Sale, which concluded on Monday last the 24th inst.* being the 7th day of Sale.—The amount of the Sale must exceed £20,000.

Turner's 5th plague of Egypt,	155 gs.
Two pictures by Vernet, bought Elwin	550 gs.
The Poussins by Mr. Jeffries.	370 ,,
The Raphaels—Welsh Porter	100 gs.
The Gipsy, by Romney—Mr. Kemneys.	200 ,,
The Loggia of the Vatican, Mr. Paul	661 ,,

The Cabinets with Hamilton's paintings purchased by Mr. Oakley.

The China produced enormous prices.

The mirrors produced near £5000. Three of them sold for 400 gs. each.—The modern pictures sold high.

De Cort's view of Salisbury Cathedral	80 gs.
,, view of Exeter Cathedral *to Jeffery*	20 ,,
Cannaletto, view of Venice—to Soane,	150 gs.

August 29.—Lysons I dined with.—Ralph Price† sd. that all the wool grown in Spain does not exceed annually 50,000 Bags, while that in England amounts to 600,000 Bags.—The Spanish wool makes cloth of a very fine quality,—but the English is the best for Cloth which is close & warm,—not *porous*,—but fitted for the *Northern Countries.*—

September 3.—Caleb Whiteforde was at the Gallery. He was at Fonthill with Nollekens during two days of the Sale.—By taking down the House & selling the furniture Mr. Beckford will be relieved from an annual expense of £3000 to keep it up & probably receive £25,000 for what is sold.—

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[*] The above sale is not recorded in Redford, Graves, or any such compilation known to us. The following account is taken from a newspaper of the period:

"This attractive auction closed with the pictures and porcelain, after lasting seven days, attended throughout by all the rank and opulence of the adjacent counties. The sale was conducted in the Grand Hall, and displayed every day an assemblage of the most beautiful females, each seeming to vie with the other in the display of their taste in dress. The crowd was great, and such was the scarcity of beds that cottagers let their hovels for one and two guineas a night. The Park and Lake offorded every day an enchanting scene. The company in groupes bestrewed themselves over the verdant hills of the former, to enjoy their cold collations, and the barges crowded to the shady retreats of the banks of the lake, the quarry and the woods. The auction was conducted in a very excellent and quiet manner. Competition was general, and much spirit and pleasing opposition occurred to excite the risible faculties, which the auctioneer did not lose the opportunity to improve.

"This distinguished edifice is now dismantled of all its interior elegance, and is to experience demolition next month, being advertised for sale in detail, and is supposed not likely to produce more than £20,000, though erected by the late Alderman Beckford at an expense exceeding £130,000."

[†] Son of Sir Charles Price, a former Lord Mayor.

CHAPTER LVIII

1807

Protection in Heaven

September 5.—Called on C. Offley.—He told me Mr. Simeon had expressed His reliance not on the strength of our *Fleets* or our Armies, but that the people of this country, in these revolutionary times, would find their protection in the favor of Heaven from their posessing more religious & moral worth than in this sinful age is to be found elsewhere.—

September 7.—[Wedderburne Webster, a young Officer, for a wager of 1000 guineas, this morning rode His Horse Buzzard from Ipswich to London, 70 miles in four hours & 50 minutes. He was to perform it in 5 Hours.—Small note-book.]

Pitt

September 8.—Lawrence I dined with. He mentioned more particulars given of Mr. Pitt by Lord Mulgrave.—Mr. Pitt had the greatest veneration for His father, & seemed to have adopted many of his opinions. —He thought, with Lord Chatham, very highly of Lord Bolingbroke as a writer & as an Orator.—Mr. Pitt thought Lord Bolingbroke superior to Burke—that He had a more pure taste.—Mr. Pitt sometimes repeated a Parody of Dryden's *Alexander's feast*, written by Lord Chatham the subject of it George 2nd. ridiculed,—but He wd. not give a copy of them. —Mr. Pitt was a warm admirer of *Milton*, in this *differing from Mr. Fox* who Lawrence has heard give a preference to Tasso & Ariosto,—& to Spencer our Poet.—The subject of Milton's poem relating to religion might cause Fox to feel prejudiced against it.—

September 15.—I sat to Lawrence the whole day, He having drawn the outline began to paint & laid the picture in. I dined with him.—

Teeth and Eyes

September 17.—Went to Elms [the dentist in Leicester Square] who set in a new front tooth.—I paid Him two guineas & ½ for what He had done to my teeth & for powder & liquid.

September 19.—At ½ past one called upon Mr. Watkin Phipps, Oculist, in Cork Street, Burlington Gardens, who examined my eyes, &

told me that my complaint was seated in the *Eye lids*, which from having been over exerted had lost their tone, & did not properly supply moisture for their functions. He recommended to me to apply a large Sponge, steeped in Water as *Hot as I could bear it* to my Eye lids for the space of 6 or 7 minutes 4 or 5 times a day, & to call upon Him again on Monday next, when He shd. better be able to determine what to do.—I dined alone.—His hours for receiving patients from half past one till 4 every day except Sundays.—I gave Him one guinea.—

September 21.—Passed the day with Lawrence sitting for my picture 6 Hours.—2nd sitting for *painting.*—Watkin Phipps I went to who applied a sharp stimulus to my eyes.—Directed an ointment to be touched to the edges & corners of my eyes for a minute the last thing at night,—and then to be wiped off with a soft Handkerchief.—The bathing the eyes to be continued as often as I please.—He sd. He shd. soon put my eyes to right.—

September 22.—Sat to Lawrence to-day & he finished my portrait & the picture of a Three quarter size.—I have sat once for the outline & Three days for the painting,—abt. 6 Hours each day.—Lawrence decided it to be His best picture—& that it shamed his other pictures.

Taylor and Lawrence dined with me.—Taylor mentioned that *Pope* [the Actor], who has married Mrs. Wheatley, yesterday expressed himself warmly of my kindness to Mrs. Wheatley under Her difficulties.

Not Calm Enough

September 24.—Lawrence came in the even'g.—He sd. He should paint over *my portrait again*, it wanted a *finer pulp of colour*,—a mellower Hue,—& the expression is not what it shd. be, not calm enough.—

September 25.—Watkin Phipps I went to.—He gave me a caustic waxy preparation inserted in a quill & shewed me how it was to be applied. The size of a pin's Head to be taken on the point of a small camel Hair pencil, & dissolved by passing it through the flame of a candle or holding it to the heat of a Candle or a fire, & then drawing the point of the pencil upon the lid of the eye, *between the eye lash & the eye*, of the upper & lower lid of each eye.—The eye not to be touched, *though no injury wd. ensue from it.*—He directed me to continue the use of the *warm water Bath*, & the eye water, but recommended the Caustic application to be applied every morning rather than at night, as it would be *better seen how to do it.*

Attack upon Denmark

[This day a Declaration was published by Ministers justifying the attack upon Denmark.—The following passage appears in it—"His Majesty has recd. the most positive information of the determination of the present Ruler of France to occupy, with a military Force, the territory of Holstein, for the purpose of excluding Great Britain from all Her accustomed Channels of communication with the Continent; of inducing or compelling the Court of Denmark to close the passage of the Sound, against the British commerce & navigation and of availing himself of the aid of the Danish Marine for the invasion of Great Britain and of Ireland."

Organ Playing Condemned

September 27—In Bells Messenger it was stated,—" That a Grand Organ, lately erected in St. Andrews Church, Glasgow, was opened on Sunday the 6th inst. and accompanied the Psalmody during Divine Service, with the unanimous consent of the whole congregation. This is the first instance of instrumental music being admitted in the worship of God in any Presbyterian Church in Scotland."

On October 14th the Presbytery of Glasgow, who have had meetings on the subject of introducing an Organ into one of the Churches of Glasgow came to the following resolution, viz.: " That the Presbytery are of opinion that the use of Organs in the public worship of God is contrary to the Law of the Land, and to the Law and Constitution of the Established Church, & therefore prohibit it in all the Churches & Chapels within their bounds; and with respect to the Conduct of the Clergyman in this matter, they are satisfied with his judicial declaration, that He would not again use the organ in the public worship of God, without the authority of the Church."—From small note-book.]

CHAPTER LIX

1807

Public Institutions

[**September 28.**—Public Institutions.—In the Bills of Mortality there are 502 places of public worship. Three thousand and fifty seminaries for education including 237 parish Charity Schools, Eight Societies for the express purpose of promoting good morals.—Ten Societies for promoting the learned, the useful, and the polite arts. One hundred & twenty-two asylums and Almshouses for the helpless & indigent, including the Philanthropic Society.—Thirty Hospitals & Dispensatories for Sick & Lame, and for delivering poor pregnant women. Seven hundred & four friendly or benefit Societies, and institutions for charitable & humane purposes—which several institutions are supported at the almost incredible Sum of £750,000 per annum.—From small note-book.]

England Invincible by Sea

October 2.—Landseer called,—on the subject of obtaining the rank of Academicians for 3 or 4 Engravers & also to have a Professorship established in the Royal Academy for Lectures on the subject of Engraving.—Paul Sandby is friendly to the proposal.—Cosway also seems to be so & had spoken to Wyatt upon the subject, who said the proposal should first be made known to the King.—Landseer had delivered to me a printed address and letter, and intended to send one to each Academician for His consideration.—

Lawrence came in the even'g, having dined at *Kemble's* who told Him that the late *Lord Nelson* had said to Him, " that in the present circumstances of the world, Great Britain would never have a secure & honorable peace till she had been at *War with all the powers under Buonaparte's controul, and made Him & them feel the invincible power of this country by Sea.*"

A Good Landlord

October 5.—Revd. Mr. Martin Junr. called [at the Rev. H. Hamond's,* Weasenham, in Norfolk].—He informed me that the decline of the late Marquiss Townshend was very gradual;—that on the day [September 14] before He died He was at Fakenham, 3 miles from Rainham, in His carriage.—His death was not expected when it happened.—He was urged to take a glass of wine which he rather declined, but on being told that the Gentlemen who were below stairs at dinner were drinking *the King's Health*, He took the glass, & said "*Here's the King's Health, God bless Him, it is the last time I shall drink it*," and soon after, in the course of that evening He expired without it being observed till He was perceived to be dead.—He was a good Landlord to His tenants, and good to the poor; as was also the Marchioness. —Mr. Blake, a Solicitor from London, came down on business for the present Marquiss, & observed that He never before saw so many melancholy faces,—as in that House & neighbourod.—The present Marquis since the death of His Father has *franked His Letters Leicester, & Townshend.* He is believed to Have a great objection to the title of *Townshend*, being very proud of His Barony of *De Ferrars* & His *Earldom of Leicester.* He has had all His daughters christened with the addition of *Ferrars* to that of Anne or Mary or whatever they might be first named.

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

[Curley, the Brighton Shepherd, run 1 mile in a few seconds less than 4 minutes. He was to perform the mile at 4 starts in the space of three hours.—He went the first quarter in a minute, and after taking some rest, He performed alternately the other quarters in less than 3 minutes. He reserved a few seconds for the last quarter of a mile, having done the third with astonishing speed. It took place this day on Clapham Common for a wager of 20 guineas.—From small note-book.]

A Norfolk Family

October 10.—At 2 oClock I called on the Hon: & Revd. Wm. Wodehouse at Little Massingham with H. Hamond & saw Him & Mrs. Wodehouse & Miss Hussey.—Mr. Wodehouse sd. it is reported that the measure of seizing the Danish Ships was suggested by the Marquiss of Wellesley.—Mr. Wodehouse is between 25 or 6 years old, Mrs. Wodehouse 29.—They were married in February last. She had £10,000 made up by a legacy from the late Lady Walpole, Her grandmother, & from others.—He has 2 small livings, & their income is made up [to] £900 a year.—They have a *carriage*, but do not *keep Horses*.—Lord Wodehouse has 3 other Sons,—viz:—Hon: Coll. Wodehouse of West Norfolk Militia,—Hon: Captn. Wodehouse of the Navy,—Hon: The Revd. Armine Wodehouse, Rector of Litcham, £600 a year.—We returned home & dined witht. company.—

Barclay of Urie

October 12.—[A Pedestrian race took place this day at Newmarket, for 600 guineas. Wood, a Lancashire man, against Captain Barclay of Urie. The wager was which should go farthest in 24 Hours, Wood giving Captn. Barclay 20 miles. They started at 8 oClock in the morning.

Wood having gone 40 miles in 6 Hours and 20 minutes resigned the Contest.—The following is an accurate acct. of the progress made by each.—

Wood.		*Barclay.*	
Hours.	*Miles.*	*Hours.*	*Miles.*
1.	8.	1.	6.
2.	7.	2.	6.
3.	7.	3.	6.
4.	6½.	4.	6.
5.	6.	5.	6.
6.	5½.	6.	6.

Captn. Barclay stopped, & took some warm fowl after having gone 18 miles, & He stopped again after having gone the other 18 miles, & it was then while He was taking other refreshments that Wood resigned the contest.—The Captn., however, run four miles to decide some bets, and He did 40 miles in 6 Hours & 20 minutes.*—From small note-book.]

October 13.—This morning I began to draw for the first time that I have attempted it since my eyes were affected,—& was able to apply near 2 Hours.—

How to Live Long

October 15.—The Revd. Mr. Spurgeon came after dinner. He told me His father, Mr. Spurgeon of Yarmouth [an attorney], is still living and in His 90th. year, but within the last year has nearly totally lost His mental faculties, having no consciousness of any person or thing but for a very short time together. Knows His Son for a few moments & then wanders off to something that happened 30 years ago.—He is confined to His room & cannot walk witht. placing his hand on a table or Chair, His appetite continues. Such is the decay of old age.—His wife is also living in the 83rd. year of Her age.—Mr. Spurgeon's mode of life has been as follows, but not according to any rule laid down by Himself.—

		the year round.
His Hour of *rising* has been		½ past 8.
Breakfast	at	9.
Dinner	at	3.
Tea	at	6.
light supper,	at	9.
To bed,	at	11.

From breakfast till dinner time He has been occupied professionally.

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* Robert Barclay Allardice, commonly known as Captain Barclay, the pedestrian. His most extraordinary feat was walking at Newmarket one mile in each of 1,000 successive hours, which performance lasted from June 1 to July 12, 1809. Yet he was so little exhausted that he joined the Walcheren Expedition on July 17 as aide-de-camp to the Marquess of Huntly.

Three days before his death from paralysis on May 8, 1854, he was injured by a kick from a horse.

—From tea till Supper time He always reserved to Himself & passed that time in his Study in *reading* & chiefly *History;* and if not incommoded wd. again have His Book after Supper.—Till He was 60 years of age He only drank *White Wine* as He found that Port Wine *prevented digestion.* At 60 He was advised to drink Port wine, but He did not long continue to do so.—His usual quantity was 2 glasses of White wine, which by filling only Half glasses He made into 4.—He was always indifferent as to what food was provided, and did not eat much.—His Health continues, but His mental faculties are gone within a year or two.—His memory had been remarkably good.—He was of the *Tory interest* in Norfolk.—

Mr. Spurgeon occasionally visits Lord Cholmondely at Houghton. His Lordship neither Hunts, Shoots, or rides. His outdoor amusement is to walk out with His Steward & mark a tree to be cut down, & He also attends to the planting of young trees.—He seems to be very fond of the conversation *of foreigners.*—The Duke of Clarence is at Houghton, at present & stays till Sunday next. He went with Lord Cholmondely to Lynn on Tuesday last; and was recd. at the Mayor's, Mr. Scarlet Everard's, & afterwards, at the Town Hall, was complimented with the Freedom of Lynn.—H. Hamond was told by the Post Master at Rougham, that the Duke writes to *Mrs. Jordan every day.*

Roughed into Manhood

Lord Malpas, son of Lord Cholmondely,* a boy of 15, seems to be a lad of little promise, & to be bred up in a trifling way, Spurgeon sd. at His Mother's apron string.—He goes to Eaton School, but there has a private Tutor, and is not likely to be roughed into manhood by intercourse with other Boys.

Lord Cholmondely was desirous to sell Houghton Hall and the estate but Lord Chancellor Eldon set His face against any attempt to annul the entail.—The House is in a dirty state,—no part being properly clean except the Kitchen.—

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* George Horatio Cholmondeley was born in Paris on January 16, 1792, and was styled Lord Malpas. In 1817-21 he sat as Tory M.P. for Castle Rising under the name of Earl of Rocksavage, and on January 5, 1822, he was called to the House of Lords in his father's Barony as Lord Newburgh. He was Joint Great Chamberlain of England, and from 1858 Constable of Castle Rising until his death on May 8, 1870. He succeeded his father in 1827 as second Marquess of Cholmondeley.

The first Lord Tollemache said: "If all Englishmen were like Lord Cholmondeley (*i.e.*, the Lord Malpas referred to above) they would be religious and delightful men, but the French would soon come and take London."

CHAPTER LX

1807

The Duke of Clarence

October 18.—H. Hamond returned from Lynn to breakfast.—The Duke of Clarence recd. the freedom of that town on Tuesday last & took the usual oaths.—He afterwards partook of a Collation at Mr. Scarlet Everard's, the Mayor, where a Chair was placed for Him at the Head of the table, according to Etiquette, but on his sitting down He sd. He would not part man & wife & He desired Mr. & Mrs. Everard to sit near Him.

October 19.—Tom Bagge* told me He dined with the gentlemen from Lynn at Lord Cholmondely's at Houghton on Friday last. Abt. 40 sat down to dinner in the Hall, abt. 6 oClock. The Duke of Clarence sat at the middle of the table with His back to the Fire and took the lead in everything. He proposed Six bumper toasts & prefaced each by a speech. He said the *Whigs* had brought His family to the Throne of this Country & He would always give His support to them. He spoke of Sir Robt. Walpole as being instrumental in effecting that object. —He drank, Mr. Bagge supposed, 2 Bottles of wine,—& kept the Company at the table till 9 oClock, a thing very unusual at Houghton as Lord Cholmondely generally goes to the Ladies in half an Hour after they retire. He attended to the *glasses* of several to see that they filled bumpers.—He drank Lord Spencers Health & prefaced it by recapitulating the names of the great Naval Officers employed by Him while first Lord of the Admiralty, viz. :—Lord St. Vincent,—Lord Nelson &c.—Lord Spencer sat next to the Duke.—Mr. Coke was there.

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* Thomas Philip Bagge (1771-1827), of Stradsett Hall and Islington Hall, Norfolk, J.P., D.L., was married on April 28, 1808, to Grace, youngest daughter of Richard Salusbury, of Castle Park, Lancaster. He was succeeded by his second son, William (the eldest died in 1816), M.P. for West Norfolk, who was created a Baronet on April 13, 1867. Tom Bagge's father lost his second wife on August 15, 1807, and the shock affected him so much that he died four days after her.

The present Baronet is Sir Alfred William Francis Bagge, B.A., LL.B., barrister, and captain of the 4th Battalion Norfolk Regiment. The family dates back to the fifteenth century.

October 24.—In the evening of this day I saw the *Comet* with its tail, at 9 oClock very distinctly with the naked eye.

October 30.—At noon I left Massingham & H. Hamond drove me to Wesenham where I waited with Him till ½ past 2 for the Fakenham Coach which had been delayed an Hour & ½ waiting for game from Mr. Coke's at Holkham, the consequence was we did not get to Cambridge till ½ past 2 the next morning.—I slept at the Bull Inn.

Jackson the Bruiser

October 31.—At 8 oClock left Cambridge in the Telegraph Coach & got to Fetter Lane ¼ before 4 oClock.—Jackson the bruiser, was an outside Passenger. He had been to Cambridge to instruct the Marquiss of Tavistock & other young men of rank, who take Him much into their association. He has a room in the Albany building, Piccadilly where He gives lessons in Pugilism, & is supposed to make 4 or £500 a year.

A Glutton

November 1.—Oliver called to speak abt. the Election of Associates. —He has been much employed by the Duke of Norfolk, & much with Him at Arundel Castle.—When the Duke has only a few friends who are domesticated with Him, He does not drink more, rather less than a pint of wine a day: but perhaps once in a week or so, He had a party to dinner & will then drink 2 or 3 bottles. He has an uncommonly great appetite, but makes it a rule never to eat anything between breakfast & dinner. He says no man ought to be called a *Glutton* but He who eats more than He *can digest.*—He is fond of Discussion over His wine as subjects may arise.—

November 2.—Thomson's I dined at, Owen there who has lately been at Sir Willm. Heathcote's in Hampshire, 3 miles from Sir N. Holland's* House,—Sir Nathl. is said to posess £24,000 a year, but does not expend more than £5000 a year. He lives very handsomely however, both in His House & equipage; Has a man Cook, & when He gives dinners they are sumptuous.—He is extremely fond of a young girl, the daughter of His *Butler*, and just emerging from Childhood. She sits at His table while Her father waits at it. . . . and is taken by them [Sir Nathaniel & Lady Holland] when they pay visits, which causes some difficulty in others to know how to receive her. He makes sketches & occasionally paints, but complained of His *eyes* when speaking to Owen.—Though He is considered a singular man in His manner, He is on the whole very well liked by the neighbouring gentry.—

The Navy

[On Saturday Oct. 31, the Gazette contained Admiral Gambiers acct. of the evacuation of Copenhagen & the Island of Zealand also Lord Cathcarts acct.

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* See Index, Vols. I. and II.

Present state of the British Navy—

100 Ships of the line at Sea.
11 from 50 to 44.
14 frigates.
175 Sloops &c.
175 Gun brigs & smaller vessels.

Adding to which those in Commission & under repair, including the guard ships give 146 of the line,—21 from 50 to 44; 180 frigates;—219 Sloops &c; —220 gun brigs &c., making a total of 790 Ships of war.

44 Sail of the line are building.
45 in ordinary—making together 235 sail of the line, independent of the Danish fleet.—From small note-book.]

CHAPTER LXI

1807

Louis XVIII. in England

[**November 2**.—Louis 18th. under the title of Compte de Lille, accompanied by the Duke De Berri, and suite landed at Yarmouth on Monday 2nd. inst., & [after breakfast with Admiral Douglas] set out for Gosfield Park, Essex. He was attended by Monsieurs, the Prince of Conde, Duc de Bourbon,—Duc d'Angouleme, Duc de Grammont & suite. On their arrival [on the 3rd] at the 3 Cups, Colchester, a great concourse of people had assembled at the Inn to see the illustrious strangers. The people were of all ranks. The elegant large new room being thrown open for the reception of the Royal Guests, it was permitted that their wishes might be fully gratified, & they were admitted into the room without the least restraint. The Royal Stranger expressed much satisfaction at the good wishes evidently expressed in the countenances of those whom curiosity had excited to appear in his presence.—From small note-book.]

Sir Joshua's Sister

November 4.—Marchi called to inform me of the death of Mrs. Reynolds, sister to Sir Joshua Reynolds, on Sunday last, aged 73.—She came to London to reside with Her Brother in 1753.*

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* Frances Reynolds, Sir Joshua's elder sister, kept house for him when he, on Lord Edgcumbe's advice, took rooms in St. Martin's Lane, then a neighbourhood much frequented by artists. But she was not a success in that capacity. Frances was evidently of a highly nervous disposition, little things worried her, and her brother's orderliness and exactitude were, doubtless, the cause of great trouble between the two. Unrequited love is said to have added to her torments, as certainly did her failure as a painter of miniatures and copies of Sir Joshua's pictures, which made him cry and other people laugh. In the end the ill-matched pair separated, she going back, with a pension, to Devonshire, where she passed most of her time in painting. She was in Paris in 1768, and later lodged with Dr. Hoole, translator of Ariosto. Tom Taylor's Life of Reynolds gives sadly interesting extracts from her own notes and drafts of letters never posted, and in Farington's Diary (Vol. I., page 262) we read:

"Miss Reynolds, speaking of Him [Sir Joshua] since His death, said she saw nothing in him *as a man* but a *gloomy tyrant*.—So far resentment in all probability from not having been more particularly noticed in his will (He left Her only £100 a year) influenced Her mind.—Malone joined me in saying that during the time Miss R. lived with Sir Joshua, she rendered him uncomfortable by Her capricious temper, which obliged him to cause Her to fix on another residence."

[His Majesty has recently bestowed a Pension of £2000 a year upon the Comptesse of Albany, widow of Charles Stuart, commonly called the Pretender. She is a Princess [Louise] of the House of Stolberg & lived at Brussells when she was married.—From small note-book.]

November 5.—Lawrence called, preparing to go to day to Sir Francis Baring's at Stratton in Hants to paint portraits in one picture, of Mr. Baring, & Mrs. Wall, eldest Son & daugr. of Sir Francis & a Son of each of them ;—also of the late Lady Baring from a miniature.—

Lawrence told me that to make His colours dry, He has a little of the Essence of Asphaltum mixed with the following colours *when His pallet is set*, viz : Black,—yellow Lake, Lake, Brown Pink, and [ ] to which He also adds a little Sacrum Saturnae to avoid using too much of the asphaltum.—When thus prepared He uses no other vehicle but *Linseed Oil*.—He never uses drying oil or *Macgilp* which latter He thinks changes & makes colours horny. Lawrence buys [the Esssence of Asphaltum] from the Shop where Gainsborough purchased it,—Strahan & Strong—Long-acre.

[On Tuesday Oct. 27, at a meeting of the Governors of the Hospital at Exeter, the Revd. Jonas Dennis stated to the honor of the County, that the first discovery of vaccination was made abt. 40 years ago, by a Mr. Bragge of Axminster, who ascertained that the Cow Pox was not only a preventative of the Small Pox but also that it might be communicated by means of innoculation. Dr. Jenner* however had the merit & been the means of the happy instrument of extending its practise, but it proved that vaccination was not so novel as some had imagined.—From small note-book.]

Claude and Dutch Painters

November 6.—I had company to dinner.—A contest of opinion took place on the powers of Claude Lorrain compared with the Dutch Masters.—Dance said the works of Claude had such perfection as was seen in the *Greek Sculpture*, & that the Dutch Masters in attempting to represent the hues & effects seen in nature were inferior to Him a thousand degrees.—Daniell supported by Smirke contended that Claude cd. not draw, could not make such forms of *Clouds*, as are seen in the best Dutch masters, & that Claude was limited to one kind of Sky, and could not have done what the Dutch masters executed. He instanced a picture of De Vleiger which He had lately seen.—

[Mr. Watson, a manufacturer at Preston in Lancashire, failed lately for between 4 and £500,000.—His own acct. stated defficiencies to upwards of £300,000.—Two Mr. Barton's of Manchester, married His daughters, & by false representations He has taken them in for near £50,000. For this Sum they have in part security, but their loss will be heavy.—Thornton's (Russia House) £50,000. Lord Derby 6 or £7000 advanced to pay Election Bills.—£300,000 in Bills are running

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

& will produce much private distress & public inconvenience.—From small note-book.]

Lord Winchelsea

November 7.—Woodforde called.—He was in September last 3 weeks at Burleigh on the Hill in Rutlandshire, Lord Winchelsea's* seat, where He began to paint a portrait of His Lordship a whole length. It is a very large & noble House & was built abt. 100 years ago. Lord Winchelsea does not reside there much as it wd. be too expensive for His circumstances, but lives in a high state when He is there.—He is a Bachelor, abt. 56 years of age, is 6 feet 1 Inch high, & very agreeable in His manners. Many people of distinction, gentlemen & Ladies came, & the Hon. Miss Finch, His Lordships sister, was there.—Dinner was usually served at 7 oClock, & took up abt. 2 hours before the gentlemen went to Coffee with the Ladies. His Lordship drank His wine chiefly *during dinner*, taking a glass with most or all of the gentlemen, & then also with the Ladies.—After the Ladies retired the gentlemen soon adjourned to them.—His Lordship visits a Lady, Mrs. Thomson, who resides at Brompton at a beautiful Villa built by the late Earl of Bute, & designed by Adam, but always returns at night to his House in South St. He has a Son, 13 years of age, who is called Finch, or Thomson, & was with Him at Burleigh.—Lord Winchelsea is at present Groom of the State, 4000 a yr.—

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* The ninth Earl and fourth Earl of Nottingham. He was unmarried (1752-1826).

CHAPTER LXII

1807

War against Denmark

November 7.—[The Gazette contained a Declaration of War against Denmark, in consequence of the King of Denmark having declared War against England.

The Gazette contained an order for general reprisals against the Ships, goods & inhabitants of the territories & ports of Tuscany, the Kingdom of Naples, the port & territory of Ragusa, and the Islands lately composing the Republic of the Swiss Islands, in Consequence of their antient governments having been subverted by France, & new governments under Her influence are aiding in her hostile designs against the property, commerce & navigation of his Majestys subjects.

Portuguese Proclamation, dated Oct. 20, 1807—published in the papers to-day,—Extract :—" It being impossible to preserve any longer *neutrality* during the present war, I have judged it proper to accede to the Cause of the Continent by uniting myself to His Majesty the Emperor of the French & King of Italy, and to his Catholic Majesty, in order to contribute as far as may be in my power, to the acceleration of a maritime peace ; wherefore I am pleased to order, that the Ports of this Kingdom shall be immediately shut against the entry of Ships of War and Merchant vessels belonging to Great Britain."—by order of the Prince Regent. Lisbon Octr. 22, 1807.—From small note-book.]

Beauties of Bath

November 10.—Mr. West having returned from Bath with Mrs. West on Saturday last called on me this afternoon. He sd. Mrs. West suffered from *bathing*, but was benefitted by drinking the Bath waters, & on the whole was better, & he thought wd. weather the winter.—I was struck with the strong marks of *age* in his countenance, but He appeared to be well.—He spoke of Bath & its vicinity with rapture as abounding with picturesque Scenery.—Take Bath & 20 miles round it He sd. & there is not in the world anything superior to it. Rocks of the finest forms for a painter that He had ever seen,—large, square forms.—*Quarry's* worked out, now most picturesque & romantic.—Wyck,

& Hampton rocks, Chedder Cliffs,—most picturesque,—distances the most beautiful,—roads with occasional pools & streams of water falling from the Hills & Cattle & figures such as Berghem never saw.—Take *Tivoli away* & Rome & its vicinity of 20 miles not to be compared with Bath & its neighboroud.—

Artists at Bath

Artists much encouraged at Bath. The two Barkers* *very ingenious*, the eldest indeed lives upon the reputation of *His Woodman* but His portfolio is stored with subjects of Peasantry &c. landscape admirably drawn with Chalk on stained paper, for truth of expression excellent, unrivalled.—West told Him if He wd. put them *on Canvass* they wd. be captivating. Benjamin, the younger Brother, is the better Landscape painter.—Shaw, a landscape painter,† told West that He had Commissions which wd. occupy Him more than a year and a half.—has 40 guineas for a picture abt. Kitcat size—takes in orders for pictures & finishes His Commissions in rotation. Employed by gentlemen of the West of England to decorate their Houses viz: for Chimney pieces,—over doors &c. If time to spare His pictures wd. be taken by 2 picture dealers at Bristol to sell again.—

Exhibition to be opened at Bath the next Spring,—upon a plan for a Society which West recommended shd. be formed as much as cd. be on that of the Royal Academy.—Drawing masters at Bath make fortunes.—

West had the carriage at Bath in which He & Mrs. West & Mrs. Banks went from London, & He used it in all His excursions, hiring 2 or 4 Horses as the distance might require.—He employed His mornings in making sketches, & made a design of "the discovery of the good qualities of the Bath waters."—Drawings do not sell at Bath, as He was told by the Artists; *oil paintings* are the works in request.—

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* Richard Barker, of Bath, and his younger brother, Benjamin.

† Joshua Shaw was a native of Bellingborough, in Lincolnshire, in 1776. Left an orphan at an early age, he was apprenticed to a provincial sign painter, and after his time expired he became a painter of landscapes and flower pieces. He was also employed, both in England and America, to make copies of pictures by men such as Berchem and Gainsborough, which were sold as originals. According to Bryan the date of his death is unknown. He contributed irregularly to the Royal Academy from 1802 until 1814, and lived in Wells Road, Bath, up to 1810.

[Mr. Basil S. Long, The Nook, North Road, Berkhamsted, writes: You refer in a footnote to Farington's Diary to Joshua Shaw, the artist. The following facts, communicated a few years ago by the late Mr. Charles Henry Hart, of Philadelphia, are not generally known in this country. Shaw went to America in 1817 on the same ship that carried West's picture of "Christ Healing the Sick." He first exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in 1819. He taught drawing for many years and published "A New and Original Drawing Book," oblong folio, at Philadelphia in 1819. He subsequently became an inventor, and his improvements in fire-arms were adopted by the United States and by Russia. He died at Burlington, New Jersey, 8th September, 1860, in his eighty-third year.]

November 15.—W. Wells called on me,—& shewed me a letter from Wilkie, who is so full of commissions that it may be long before He can paint a picture for Wells, but will put Him down in His list, & approves His subject viz : " A Blacksmith listening to a Taylor's news, " —vide Shakesperes Play, King John—Wells sd. that in some of the pictures by Claude Lorrain & in some by Wilson, there has appeared to Him something of an *artificial light* upon parts of them, a sort of *Candle light*, an artificial warmth.—

I dined with Baker, & walked there with Edridge who noticed the free manner in which Hoppner speaks of Artists & their works.—He had always lived well with Hoppner, but lately when Edridge's works were spoken of favorably, Hoppner said, " Aye, very well, but we do not call that Art." Edridge sd. He had always given to Hoppner *the Palm*, as being the painter who comes nearest to His great Prototype Sir Joshua Reynolds, but He added that there were others who certainly had more originality.—

CHAPTER LXIII

1807

Hanbury of Kelmarsh

November 15.—Duppa told me that Mr. Hanbury of Northamptonshire is now at His seat at Shobdon Court in Herefordshire, & in a dying state. Mr. Stone, a medical man who attends Him daily from Leominster told Duppa that he was a week ago supported only by raw meat given Him in the shape of pills.—Mr. Stone attended Him every night.—The estate attached to Shobdon Court is estimated at £8000 a year.—Lord Bateman left it to Mr. Hanbury who was related to Him by a female line in preference to a male relationship.*

Gerard spoke of the death of the Revd. Mr. Booth. He was abt. 42 years of age, & died of a Palsy, which was attributed to the effect which the coming into posession of His Fathers large property had upon his mind.—While His Father† lived He had been kept in very limited circumstances.—His Father left £30,000 as appeared by His accounts besides very considerable estates near Ludlow, & it has lately been found that He had a considerable Sum in Long annuities.—

Constable and Mulready Students

November 16.—Constable called.—He attends the *Life Academy* every evening, and has for 3 months past been employed by Lord Dysart in copying pictures & painting original portraits. The Dowager Lady Dysart spoke to Him of the fine Head Lawrence is painting *of me.*—Rigaud is the present Visitor at the Life Academy & is one of the best Visitors that the Academy affords & sets very good figures.—Tresham who was the last Visitor, said that *He never* saw so many good drawings in the Academy at one time before.—*Mulready*[*] a young man Twenty one or two years of age is reckoned to draw the best, but sets Himself high upon it as if He had done His business.—He was a pupil of Varley[†] & married His Sister.—Hilton,[‡] another student draws very well.—He is abt. 25 or 6 years old.—

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* For William Hanbury and Lord Bateman see Vol. II., page 166, and Index, Vol. III.

† Benjamin Booth, a director of the East India Company, was a friend of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who painted an excellent portrait of him. He was also a patron of Richard Wilson, the great landscape painter, and formed the splendid collection of his pictures and drawings which was exhibited by Captain R. Ford, his great-great-grandson, at the Brighton Art Gallery in 1920. See Vol. I., page 174, of the Diary, and entry under January 3, 1808.

Hoppner Snubs a Lady

Constable gave a trait of Hoppner, which He had from a Frame Maker. This man happened to be in Hoppner's showroom when a Lady of Fashion came in, & looking at the pictures desired to speak with Hoppner. The Servant sd. He was then engaged, but she bid Him tell Her name, & accordingly Hoppner came to Her, and she began to make remarks upon the Copies she saw of Mr. Pitts portrait, observing that the nose was too long.—Hoppner impatient at the interruption He had suffered asked Her whether she desired to have a Copy, she replied undetermined, but said she possibly might. "Well then, sd. Hoppner, when you order a copy you shall have either a long nose or a short one as you may choose" & left Her. Constable observed that Hoppner abuses the people of Fashion, & they Him, but they go to Him.—Constable sd. He had now the comfort of feeling Himself completely settled in His profession, and to know that His Father, finding that He is getting on and employed is reconciled to it.—

We talked of the late election of Associates. He sd. He thought the Academy had done very well in electing respectable men, whose manners wd. not disgrace the Academy.—He sd. Drummond[§] is the King of a Pot-House, and has such low habits & notions, that He seemed unfit to be associated with men of rank at the Academy dinner.—

Lord Egremont

Philips[||] called upon me to speak abt. the ensuing election of two Academicians. I told Him that it was a subject not yet taken up, but that as far as my opinion cd. go it was that He might feel comfortable in the fair prospect of success as it appeared to me.—I sd. that His moral character had never been objected to, & He knew how He stood as to His professional abilities.—He was well satisfied with what I said.—

He told me He was going for a month to Petworth, Lord Egremont's.[¶] —He said Company from 10 to 20 or 30 sat down to dinner there every day, His Lordship living magnificently. Dinner at 6 oClock, but He added, that He was always glad to return to town to His own private repast, being soon tired of living in so much company.—Lord Egremont does not what is called quiz: any of His guests, but He is fond of seeing others carry on that sort of Humour.—Humphry was sadly quizzed in consequence of His boasting of His ancestry.—He was laughed at, & told He was descended from a Jew Pedlar. Philips sd. Lord Egremont has behaved very kindly to Humphry, having taken a portrait from Him said to be painted by Raphael for which He has settled upon Him an annuity of £100,*—His Lordship having understood from Humphry that His circumstances were very limited.—

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[*] William Mulready, afterwards R.A.

[†] John Varley. See Index, Vol. II.

[‡] William Hilton. afterwards R.A.

[§] Samuel Drummond was elected A.R.A. in 1808. See Vol. II., page 248.

[||] Thomas Phillips, A.R.A., afterwards R.A.

[¶] See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Lady Louisa Manners

Lord Dysart is abt. 68 years of age. He is a very shy man, & comes into a room sideways or almost backwards. He is a very good man & kind to all who are dependent upon Him. He has more than £30,000 a year, and being a widower witht. children will leave £30,000 a year to Sir Wm. Manners, Son of the late Jack Manners, the Usurer, who has already £30,000 a yr.—He being Lord Dysart's nephew. Lady Louisa Manners† the Mother of Sir Wm. is His Lordship's Sister.—The title will be extinct.—The present Lord Dysart & His Brother, the late Lord, married two Sisters of a Mr. Lewis of Warwickshire.—Lord Dysart amuses Himself with painting & applies more or less most days. He was much acquainted with Sir Joshua Reynolds.—

French Ports Blockaded

[A Proclamation was issued by the King in Council, directing a strict Blockade of all the French Sea Ports, and of all Sea Ports belonging to Countries under the Dominion & influence of France, and that all trade in the produce of such countries & Colonies, shall be deemed unlawful,

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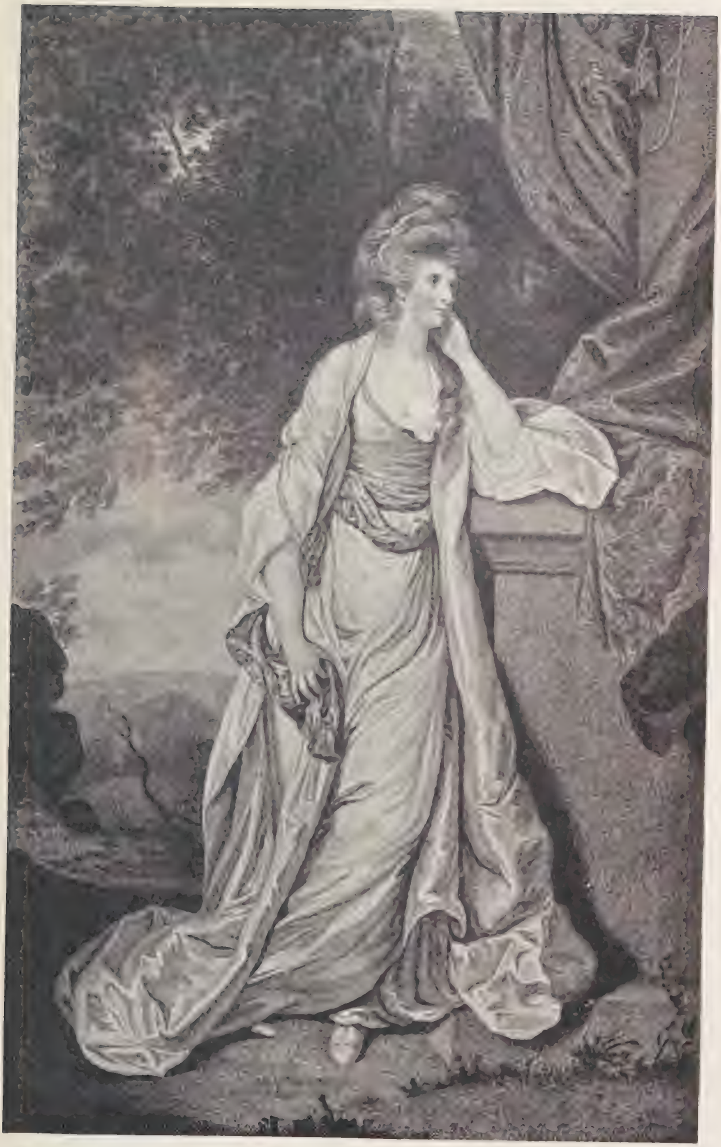
* In his "Life of Ozias Humphry, R.A.," Dr. G. C. Williamson says: "Humphry persuaded the Earl of Egremont to buy a copy of a portrait of Francesco Maria della Rovere which he had made in Italy. He asked 600 guineas for it; Lord Egremont said it was 'overvalued,' and eventually in Midsummer, 1805, he agreed to give Humphry for it £100 a year for his life. The artist therefore received £450 for the painting, as he died four and a half years after the arrangement had been made." See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† The Earl of Dysart died in 1821 and was succeeded by his sister, Lady Louisa Manners, as Countess of Dysart. She, however, with her sons John and Charles, and her daughter Laura, took only the surname and arms of Tollemache. Hoppner painted Lady Louisa's portrait, and in 1901, at Robinson and Fisher's, it was sold for 14,050 guineas, at that time the highest price ever paid for a portrait in England.

In March, 1807, Lady Louisa's own copy of C. Turner's mezzotint after Hoppner's early masterpiece was exhibited at the Leicester Galleries, London. On the margin of the print was attached an envelope addressed to "Lady Louisa Manners, Pall Mall," as well as a verse written to her by Tom Moore, which runs:

"Thou art still so lovely to me,
I would sooner, thou beautiful mother,
Repose in the sunset of thee
Than bask in the morn of another."



THE RT. HON. LADY LOUISA MANNERS
From a Print in the British Museum

[To face p. 216

and every vessel trading to the said countries laden with such produce or manufactures shall be lawful prize.—Neutrals, however, will still be allowed to furnish themselves with enemy's Colonial produce, for their own consumption; and for this purpose such trade may be carried on directly with the ports of his majesty's dominions, or his allies under certain restrictions.—America, for instance, may import the produce of the West India Islands, direct into an American port, for her own use, but she cannot export it again to a French port, & thus the order entirely cuts off the neutral carrying trade between the enemy's colonies & the Mother country.—The Second order permits universally the importation into Great Britain of the growth & manufacture of countries at war with his Majesty, in the vessels of any country in friendship or alliance with England, upon the same terms as they may have been hitherto imported into Great Britain, in British Vessels; and with regard to such articles, as are prohibited by law, they are to be reported for exportation to any country in alliance or amity with His Majesty.

Warning to Neutrals

The articles so imported into any port of the United Kingdom or of Malta & Gibraltar, except Sugar, Coffee, wine, brandy, Snuff and tobacco may be exported to any country whatever; and with respect to these articles, they also may be exported under certain conditions; By the operation of this regulation, no neutral power can supply France with any article whatever, nor the growth & manufacture of such neutral Country, unless through the medium of some Port belonging to Great Britain, —so that France cannot obtain a single ounce of sugar, coffee &c. which are the peculiar growth of the French West India Colonies unless indirectly through a British Port & upon such terms as His Majesty may think fit.—The third order recites that a great part of the Shipping of France, & Her Allies has been protected from capture by transfers, or pretended transfers, to neutrals, & directs that in future the sale to a neutral of any vessel belonging to His Majesty's enemies shall not be deemed to be legal, & all such vessels shall be captured, & adjudged lawful prize to the Captors.—From small note-book.]

CHAPTER LXIV

1807

Calumnies

November 18.—Devis* called being very desirous to bring Mr. Graham, the Magistrate, to me to confute the calumnies uttered against His character. He spoke much of what Beechey† had sd. of the prejudice against Him among the Academicians.—He sd. Beechey asked Him, "Whether He was married to the person who passed for His wife, & who died sometime ago?"—He replied that He was married to Her, that she was a French woman,—and that He was married to Her by a Roman Catholic Priest according to their form.—That He had afterwards asked a Doctor of Civil Law & others whether the marriage was valid, & was assured by them that it was so. He sd. she died in France.—He added that He thought it very odd that Beechey shd. put such a question; He who had lived with the present Lady Beechey whilst His first wife was living & introduced Her into company at that time as His wife.—I repeated what I had before sd. to Him that His conduct had been reported to be irregular, which had operated against His being elected an Associate of the Royal Academy, I declined receiving Mr. Graham, telling Him that my conversation with Him rendered that unnecessary.

Catalani's Salary

[Madame Catalani's engagement for the ensuing season, at the King's Theatre, says the *Morning Herald*, was finally settled on Saturday last. She is to have 7500 guineas, & two clear benefits, and is to suffer no deduction of salary in consequence of any indisposition. Madame Catalani,—the celebrated Singer published a letter in the Morning Herald [on November 28] stating that she had cancelled an engagement with Mr. Taylor of the Opera House. She was to have had 5000 guineas for the season, but on condition that she shd. perform alternately in the first serious & first comic characters, thus binding Herself to exert Herself "twice the number of nights that she did the last Season." Her only motive for wishing to renounce the engagement was the great fatigue it would have imposed upon her.—

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* Arthur William Devis. See Vol. III., pages 128 and 138*n.*

† Sir William Beechey, R.A. See Vols. I., II. and III.

A Curious Case

On Monday last, Novr. 16, Sir Wm. Scott gave judgment at Doctor's Commons in the Case of Wakefield versus Mackay, alias Wakefield. It appeared that Mr. Wakefield, a Student of one of the Inns, had married Mrs. Wakefield by banns, published under the name of Isabella Jackson, and that she was the illegitimate daughr. of John & Ann Mackay; that in the year 1800, she went by the name of Lascelles, and afterwards by the name of Sharpe. It further appeared that the Lady in question had been baptised by the name of Isabella Jackson, which ceremony was performed by a Catholic Priest, her parents being Roman Catholics. It was contended by Mr. Wakefield's Council that the marriage was null & void inasmuch as the banns were published in a wrong name;* and further it was contended that Mrs. Wakefield having proved to be an illegitimate child, was not entitled to any name, except that she acquired by reputation. On the part of Mrs. Wakefield, it was contended, that she was, from the evidence produced in the cause, clearly entitled to the name of Jackson, and that the banns were properly published. The Court, after minutely stating the evidence on both sides and making several judicious observations concluded by *confirming* the validity of the marriage.—From small note-book.]

White Wine and Red

November 19.—J. Offley told me He had been this day to consult Dr. Reynolds† who recommended to Him to Go to a surgeon, Mr. Ford‡ of Golden Square, who ascertained the cause of disagreeable symptoms. —Dr. Reynolds lately told Him, that He, the Doctor, had for sometime been troubled with *Cramps* in His legs, and could not acct. for the cause,—but finding that for some days He had been free from this complaint, He reflected that He had during that period drank only *White Wine*, owing to the Key of His Cellar having been mislaid. To be certain of this being the cause of the relief He had felt, He again drank Port Wine & the Cramp returned.—He again desisted & those pains left Him. He repeated this experiment again with the *same effect* & then remained convinced that there is a quality in Port Wine which so operated upon His constitution.—

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* This case was, of course, before the statute of George IV. making null and void a marriage in names known by both parties to be false. A case of this kind came before Sir Henry Duke, President of the Divorce Court, on the 18th January, 1923.

The parties concerned were married at St. Alban's Church, Great Ilford, Essex. Their names were given as John Harry Small and Mary Taylor, whereas his real name was John Henry Smallwood, and the Judge pronounced for the dissolution of the marriage on the ground that the ceremony was rendered void by the banns having been put up in the petitioner's false names.

† Henry Revell Reynolds, eminent doctor. See Vols. II. and III.

‡ See footnote, Vol. I., page 174.

November 20.—At 12 I called on Wm. Wells at the East India Dock Office, Lime St. Square, & went with Him to Mr. Brickwood's[*] Lime St. Square & saw two large Landscapes by Wilson[†] which were painted by Him for Sir Patrick Blake, whose son has sold them to Mr. Brickwood for £400.—Sir Patrick paid Wilson 160 guineas for them. —They were painted in 1765 & in His best manner.—I told Mr. Brickwood they would make His House famous.—These pictures I saw [at an earlier date] with Henry Bunbury at Mr. Manning's in the City.—After we left Mr. Brickwoods, W. Wells told me He would give me one of His pictures by *Brooking*.[‡]

A Successor to Burke

November 21.—[Dr.] Hayes called—Mr. John Adolphus[§] of Warren St. was yesterday admitted a Barrister of the Inner Temple. He was immediately employed, recd. His first *fee* 5 guineas from Cooper the Attorney,—& got 40 guineas in the first week.—He is 41 years old, is married, & has two children, one of them & Son aged 12 has made an extraordinary proficiency in learning languages.—reads French & Latin & Greek & is learning Hebrew.—Mr. Adolphus is the writer of the political article in the *Annual Register* which was formerly written by *Mr. Burke* & afterwards by *Dr. Lawrence.*[||] Adolphus says what Dr. Lawrence wrote upon the French Revolution was very ably done.—Adolphus also wrote Memoirs of the French Revolutionists, in 2 vols.—He is of German extraction but was born in London.—He has Chambers in Pump court, Temple, & much is expected from his talents, & eloquence. He has fixed to go to the *Home Circuit*, & to practise at the Old Bailey. —He is a strong Government Man, opposing the conduct of the Whigs as they call themselves.

A Cambridge Librarian

November 23.—I was at Home all day,—the weather dull & wet.—Lysons[¶] dined with me.—He returned from Cambridge today where

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[*] Wine merchant.

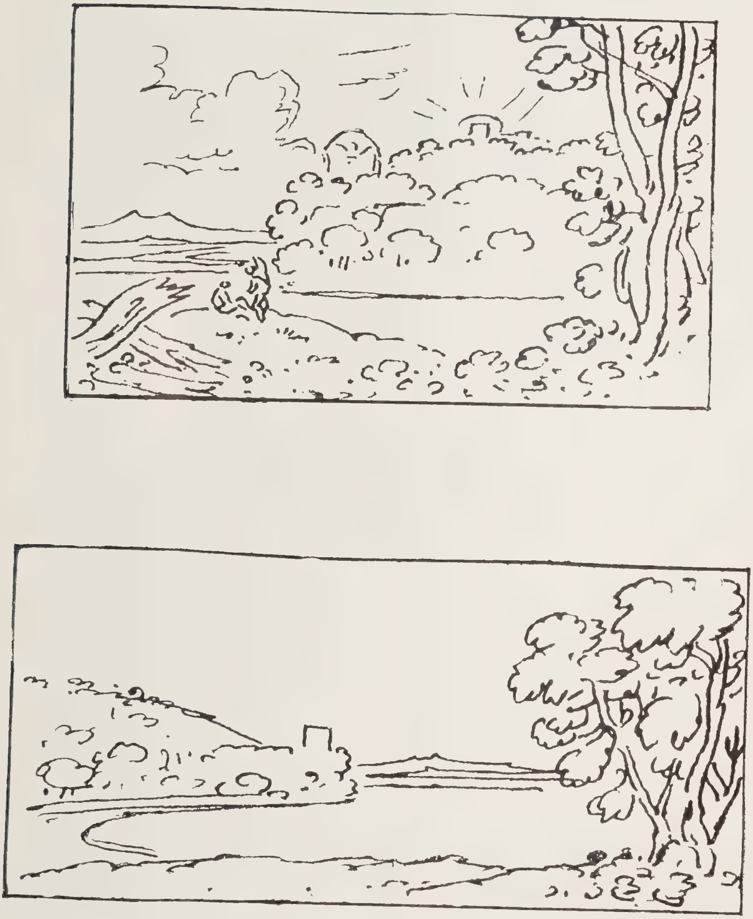
[†] Richard Wilson, R.A. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

[‡] Charles Brooking. See Vol. III., page 206.

[§] According to the D.N.B., John Adolphus was born in 1768, of German parentage, his grandfather having been domestic physician to Frederick the Great, and author of a romance, "Histoire des Diables Modernes," wrongly ascribed in Watts's "Bibliotheca" to John Leycester Adolphus, his son, who was a barrister and author of "Letters to Richard Heber, Esq.," in which he sought to prove that Scott was the author of "Waverley." In 1793 John Adolphus married Miss Leycester, a lady "of good family and little fortune." He wrote several Histories, including "Bibliographical Memoirs of the French Revolution" (1799) and the "Political State of the British Empire" (1824). His first notable success on the home circuit was his defence in 1820 of the Cato Street conspirators. Adolphus died on July 16, 1845.

[||] Dr. French Lawrence, writer for the "Rolliad." See Index, Vols. I. and III.

[¶] Samuel Lysons, historian. See Vols. I., II. and III.



Two drawings by Farington from pictures by his master, Richard Wilson

[*To face p.* 220

He collected what remained to be acquired respecting that County for the Magna Brittannia.—He was with *Kerrick*[*] who is Librarian at Cambridge & resides entirely there & is a great admirer of the Works of Rubens.—Lysons speaking to Him of introducing Mr. Pitts name into the Magna Brittannia asked what epithet shd. be given Him ?—Kerrick replied in the negative, adding " Would you place an epithet before the name of Rubens ? "—

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[*] Thomas Kerrich (1748-1828) was an accomplished painter, draughtsman and etcher. The Academy of Painting at Antwerp awarded him with a silver medal for the best drawing. To the British Museum he left a valuable collection of manuscripts and drawings of ancient costumes, and his son bequeathed seven pictures, a number of books and many portfolios of early prints.

CHAPTER LXV

1807

A Total Abstainer

November 23.—Sir Joseph Banks was at the Royal Society Club on Thursday last. He continues to abstain wholly from *Fish* or *Flesh meat*, & has done so for 4 years, and also from wine & spirits.—He finds Himself much better for it. He eats only vegetable diet, including puddings.—and drinks milk or water only.—Whether He is *in* or *out of town* there is every morning throughout the year a breakfast prepared in His Library for His friends at 10 oClock.—Sir Joseph Lady & Miss Banks are of the party when in town.—

A Gloomy Room

The Prince of Wales on his late visit to Lord Berkley* at Berkley Castle made those who received Him glad when it was over.—Previous to His coming one of His pages arrived to prepare everything for Him. On being shewn the room in which the Prince was to sleep He exclaimed "This the room, a gloomy room like this, it will not do."—The Chief Servant of Lord Berkley observed, that Berkley is an ancient not a modern building & the room they were in had been considered the best in it. The Page however demanded to see another and was shewn into an adjoining apartment, which had been intended for Him.—"This sd. He, shall be the room for the Prince & I will sleep in the other," which accordingly was settled.

One day the Prince having dined there at *six oClock* Lady Berkley did not ask Him to fix an Hour the following day but ordered the dinner to be ready at Six, & at that Hour the Prince was informed that dinner was ready. He sent word that He could not then dine, and the dinner was taken off the table, & they waited till eight oClock before He made His appearance.—He was there on a *Sunday* & Lady Berkley asked Him whether He proposed to go to Church ? To which he answered "That if she desired it, or it wd. oblige Her He would go."—To this she made no reply & He did not go.—At Bristol, at Gloucester, & wherever He went the people were disatisfied with His behaviour.—

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* Frederick Augustus, fifth Earl of Berkeley. See Vol. I., page 272 and *note*.

[Died on Saturday morning last, the 21st. inst. Abraham Newland Esqr. late Chief Cashier at the Bank of England, aged 77. He was elected a Clerk in the Bank in the year 1747, appointed Chief Cashier on the 8th of Jany. 1778. On resigning that situation a short time since He refused an annuity of £500.—A piece of plate of the value of £4000 was voted Him. He declined gradually & died witht. pain, leaving £7000 a year to distant relatives.

November 24.—Dr. Jenner has lately had a remittance of £4000 from India a gift for His invaluable discovery.—From small notebook.]

November 25.—Lysons I dined with.—He had seen Davis* who was much pleased with what He communicated respecting my supplying drawings for the Magna Brittannia.—Ralph Price came to tea.—He told us that money was abundant in the City,—& no despondency in consequence of our Proclamation of Blockade of French &c. Ports.—He only feared that Ministers wd. give way & not adhere to their resolution.—English goods cannot be kept out of France.—He is now shipping 70 tons of oil for France, which are to be sent in Casks made in imitation of French Casks.—Should America be induced to go to War with us, a Civil war wd. take place in that country.—In short we are upon high ground, though the times are critical, but all we require is to maintain our resolution.—

He Wore Pink Ribbons

Lysons told me that a dispute subsists between Lord Chartley Son of the Marquiss Townshend (Earl of Leicester) & His Father.—Lord Chartley insists upon being called Earl of Leicester as being now the second title of the Family, which His Father objects to as being a title granted to Himself.—It was referred by Lord Chartley to [ ] of the Heralds College who decided that Lord Chartley had a right to the title of Leicester,—but Sir Isaac Heard, Garter King at arms, & Townshend the Herald, have since decided against the claim of Lord Chartley; which has caused a reference to the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, who has given it in favor of Lord Chartley's claim, saying that a similar instance happened in His own family where the claim was allowed.—While this question is depending both Lord Chartley & His Father refuse to sign an instrument of importance to both.—Lord Chartley is a very effeminate young man,—sometime He wore pink ribbons to His Shoes,—& having married a young Lady only a few months ago, He is said to be upon the point of separation from Her.—In Italy, while on His travels, some circumstances were observed in Him that gave an unfavourable opinion of Him.—

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* Of Cadell and Davis, publishers. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

November 27.—J. Byrne called to settle with me for my share of money recd. from Mr. Crossthwaite of Keswick for prints of views of the Lakes.—He told me His Father provided drawings for prints to be made of views in Counties to accompany Lysons's work, charging to the work only 3 guineas for each drawing, by which He was a great loser.—He paid Alexander 8 guineas each for 7 drawings,—& to Nash an architectural draughtsman, 25 guineas for a drawing of Kings College Chapel, Cambridge. For engraving the plates He had 25 guineas for each plate.—

Ward is Grateful

November 28.—Ward came to tea; and spoke to me abt. inviting to dinner those Academicians who had supported His election, and shewed me a list of the Members of the Academy, & marked the names of those who I thought might, if He shd. make two dinners, be invited so as to make each party agreeable to each other.—He told me the Students who attended the British Institution last Season gave a dinner on Monday last at the Thatched House Tavern, to Valentine Green* the Keeper, and Mr. West was invited, & was the only Member of the Academy present.—The Tickets one guinea each, and abt. 50 *attended*.—We agreed upon the impropriety of the students giving such an entertainment & of Mr. West attending it.—

Valentine Green has now a Salary of £150 a year from the British Institution [as its Keeper], but complains of want of remuneration for His trouble.—A few weeks ago He signified to Ward that as the Direction of the British Institution will have nothing to do with the payment of any pictures sold there, whatever money He receives & pays to the Artist is an act of His own for which He is wholly responsible. For this He signified that He ought to be remunerated by the Artists by a percentage upon pictures sold.—He observed that were He not to receive the *Deposit money* for the Artists not half the pictures wd. have been sold that have been disposed of.—Were gentlemen to be referred to the Artist, the trouble of going to Him & other circumstances, wd. cause many to give up their intention.—Ward expressed willingness to remunerate Mr. Green but not by a percentage or in any way that shd. be made a standing rule, but wd. join with others in subscribing a Sum to make up a purse for Mr. Green.—

Denmark and Britain

[Denmark has issued an uncommonly vigorous Proclamation denouncing *Death* against any of Her subjects who carry on an intercourse with Great Britain, together with the confiscation of the goods which may be the object of such intercourse, if they can be found; and if not, the full value of them is to be advanced from the effects of the criminals. —From small note-book.]

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* Valentine Green, A.R.A. See Index, Vols. I. and III.

CHAPTER LXVI

1807

Dissipated Young Men.

November 29.—Wm. [Offley, wine merchant] spoke of the prevailing dissipation among young men,—& mentioned that Mr. Best who shot Lord Camelford* is now in the Kings bench.—Mr. Ford,† the surgeon, who lives in Golden Square, shewed Him a House opposite in which Madame Parissot the Opera Dancer lives with a gentleman she was lately married to.—She had loose connexions before that period. —She has saved abt. £12,000 obtained by Her stage exhibitions.—

J. Offley expressed great satisfaction on having read Paley's treatise on natural Theology,—and on His proofs of the truth [of] Christianity which He thought conclusive.—Cobbet having written strongly against the predominating influence of *Commerce* J. Offley agreed with Him in thinking it had obtained too much sway in this Country, as is manifested by the great number of commercial men who have at present seats in the House of Commons.—

The Grosvenor Family

November 30.—Lysons sd. He had been informed by a gentleman from Chester that Lord Grosvenor, who is at present *Mayor of Chester*, at an entertainment which He gave in that City, made a very intemperate speech, expressing His intention to support *two members* for that City & how little He regarded the expence which He might incur.—

The Grosvenor family is very ancient. A Cause in Chancery was carried on by a Sir —— Grosvenor against a Sir —— Scroope in the time of Richd. 2nd. each maintaining a claim to certain *Arms* which was decided in favor of Scroope. The writings on both sides are in the Tower Record Office, & wd. cost £100. to have them copied, consisting of 40 Sheets of parchment on the side of Scroope & upwards of 30 on that of Grosvenor.

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* See Vol. II., page 199 and *note*.

† See Vol. I., page 174*n*

—It was shewn that Grosvenor had borne certain arms from the *Conquest.**

Constable's Uncle

December 1.—Constable called & brought a Card from Mr. David Pike Watts requesting me to dine with Him on Saturday the 12th. inst. at No. 33 Portland Place.—Constable sd. His Uncle, Mr. Watts, who posesses the great fortune of the late Ben Kenton,† Wine merchant, has mentioned to him that Mr. Kenton who sprung from a low origin, had observed that He could not extend His intercourse in proportion to the fortune He had made, being unprepared by education to join with the higher ranks and more liberal part of Society.—Mr. Watts added that His own education though not the best, was better than that of Mr. Kenton, & He felt a desire to associate with men of talents.—He therefore sent this invitation to me & proposed also to invite Messrs. West, Northcote,—Daniell, Stothard,—Dr. Crotch, the musician, & Carlisle the Surgeon.

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* Richard le Scrope (1327?-1403) was first Baron Scrope of Bolton, Chancellor of England. While Scrope was active in the Scottish expedition of 1385, he challenged the right of Sir Robert Grosvenor to bear the arms,—azure, bend or—which were the same as his own. At an earlier date (1347) Scrope was also successful in maintaining his right to the crest of a crab issuing from a coronet, the crab device passing to the Masham branch of the family when Scrope's son, the Earl of Wiltshire, adopted a plume of feathers azure as a crest.

Constance Lady Russell, writing from Swallowfield, says: In the memorable suit which lasted five years between Richard Lord Scrope and Sir Robert Grosvenor, Kt., touching the bearing of azure bend or, the evidence of the poet Chaucer is interesting and bears upon the antiquity of the rival claims. The following is his deposition:

"Geoffrey Chaucer, Esquire, of the age of forty or upwards, armed for twenty-seven years, produced on behalf of Sir Richard Scrope—asked how long a time the ancestors of the said Richard had used the same arms, said he had heard say that it passed the memory of man. Asked whether he had ever heard of any interruption or challenge made by Sir Robert Grosvenor or his ancestors, he said No, but that he was once in Friday Street and saw hanging a new sign made of the said arms, and he asked what Inn that was that hung out the arms of Scrope, and one answered, 'No, sir, they are not hung out for the arms of Scrope, but they are painted and put there for a knight of the county of Chester whom men call Sir Robert Grosvenor,' and that was the first time he ever heard speak of Sir Robert Grosvenor or of his ancestors or of any bearing the name of Grosvenor."

Mr. Arthur Oldham also writes on the same subject: Farington's reference to the Grosvenor-Scrope case and your interesting elucidatory note thereon are perhaps worth supplementing. No less famous a personage than Geoffrey Chaucer was a witness in the case on behalf of Scrope, and testified that he had seen the "arms azure, with a bend, or" borne by two members of the family, Sir Richard and Sir Henry, in France.

Mr. Oldham then repeats in almost similar terms the story sent by Lady Russell.

† Ben Kenton, one of the richest men in the London of his day, was brought up in a charity school. His mother was a greengrocer in a small way in Whitechapel, and Ben served an apprenticeship to the landlord of the "Angel," in Goulston Street, Whitechapel, afterwards going as barman and waiter to the "Crown and Magpie," in High Street, Aldgate. Ben's shrewdness, unfailing humour, and courtesy made him very popular, and when the landlord died the regular customers enabled him to become landlord of the tavern, thus laying the foundation of his vast fortune. In 1765 he gave up the public-house and started business in the Minories as a wine merchant, in addition to that of an exporter of ale and stout. By and by Kenton joined Alderman Harley, the eminent banker, in successful speculations, and when the erstwhile barman died, on May 25, 1800, he left legacies to twenty-four London charities and about £200,000 to Constable's uncle, David Pike Watts, who had been his clerk and daughter's lover. Ben, however, did not favour the match, the girl died of a decline, and her father, apparently feeling that he was in some measure responsible for her death, softened towards Watts, and made him heir to the fortune referred to above.

Constable told me He was at the dinner given on Monday Novr. 23rd. at the Thatched House Tavern, by the Students of the British Institution;—that Pocock was in the Chair & [Conversation] Sharpe vice President.—He sd. Douglas Guest disgusted the company by long speeches in which He exhibited His vanity, & was well answered on one occasion by Sharpe, & at last was coughed, & cried down when making another speech.—This mortified him greatly, & it appeared that on reflection He perceived that He had exposed Himself, & on the following even'g at the Academy, He endeavoured to shew to Constable that He *was drunk* meaning it to be an apology, but Constable told Him He appeared to be sober at ½ past 12 oClock.—He then sd. He had drank *before dinner*. —These are feeble traits of a character likely to be troublesome in the profession.*

West Weeps

West was the only Member of the Academy present, & was flattered by [Valentine] Green in a speech, on which West commented & sd. it had brought tears into His eyes;—He went on & assumed to Himself the credit of having occasioned the establishment of the British Institution; said that while He was in France He saw such advances in art made there that unless something should be done in this country we shd. be behind them, and this had caused Him to propose this institution.—I told Constable that *I* might with as good a right claim the merit of being the author of it, for I was present, with Mr. West when Mr. *Bernard* the real author of it, read His Proposal for forming it.—To such lengths does West's self-love carry Him,—to expose Himself to be confuted by many.—

Constable remarked on the impropriety of Mr. Bernard having said to Daw,† a young artist who obtained the gold medal of the Royal Academy for the best Historical picture, & has been employed by Thomas Hope‡ to draw designs for furniture,—" That as Douglas Guest intended to paint for the first prize of the British Institution it wd. be in vain for any other to hope to obtain it."

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* Douglas Guest, then a Royal Academy student.

† George Dawe. He was born in London in 1781, entered R.A. schools in 1794, and nine years later won the medal referred to. Made an Associate in 1809, he became a full Academician in 1814. Dawe twice won the 200 guinea premium at the British Institution. He spent nine years (1819-1828) in Russia, painting portraits of eminent officers. Similar commissions came to him, and he amassed a great fortune, which, however, was largely lost owing to unwise speculations. Dawe, who wrote a "Life" of his friend George Morland, died on October 15, 1829.

‡ See Index, Vols. II. and III.

R.A. Affairs

At noon I went to the Royal Academy General Meeting to decide the Premiums to be given this year.—[See December 10th.] Hoppner was much interested abt. His Son's picture painted for the Gold medal, —& desired me to consider it. After much communication with many members I found the prevailing disposition in favor of Lascelles Hoppner's* picture.—Dance, Westall & Bourgeois were for it,—& I perceived that Shee,—Tresham,—Beechey, Turner &c. were of a similar opinion.—West said there was more *mind* in *Hoppner's* picture than in *Hilton's*, but the latter's was more of a picture as a piece of painting. —I asked to which Nicolo Poussin wd. in his opinion, have given the preference ? He said He thought to *Hoppners* as it had more of that which He excelled in. Northcote, on the contrary, objected to it only on acct. of it having something Poussinish in it,—adding that He loathed that sort of painting,—so formal,—so insipid,—so cold &c.—Dance, —Westall &c. were present and laughed at so singular an opinion.—

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* See entry under December 10.

CHAPTER LXVII

1807

Sir Francis Baring's House

December 2.—I was informed from good authority, that on so great a scale has been Sir Francis Baring's* house that for two years the House had to make weekly payments of £80,000.—amounting annually to Four milions, one hundred & Sixty thousand pounds.

Russia and England

[Mr. Canning, Secretary for foreign affairs, wrote to the Lord Mayor this day as follows, viz :—

Stanhope St., Decr. 2.
Eleven oClock.

"My Lord,

I have the honor to acquaint your Lordship that dispatches have been recd. from His Majesty's Ambassador at the Court of Petersburgh, by which it appears that the Emperor of Russia, having published a Declaration, in which His Imperial Majesty announces his determination to break of all communication with England, to recal His Minister from this Court, and not to permit the continuance of a British Mission at the Court of St. Petersburgh : His Majesty's Ambassador has demanded His Passports, & is now on his return.

I have lost no time in communicating this intelligence to your Lordship, in order that it may be made as public as possible.

I have &c.
G. Canning.—"

Government has determined to prevent the further entrance of all Foreigners into the Ports of the United Kingdom. Orders to this effect have been issued to the Commanding Officers at all the Ports. No person of any description under any pretext, except He can produce an authenticated Passport, is in future to be allowed to land in England.—From small note-book.]

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* See Vols. II. and III.

Art Gossip

December 4.—Sir George Beaumont's I dined at.—Sir George shewed us the *first No.* of Forster's publication of Prints* from celebrated pictures, & thought it the best work of the kind that had been published; but sd. He shd. tell Forster that unless the succeeding numbers were equally well engraved He should withdraw His subscription.—

Sir George talked abt. Wilkie having an Exhibition of His own pictures the next Spring, to which Wilkie seemed to listen with approbation. —I gave my opinion that He shd. either do it at the time mentioned or it wd. be much less certain that it wd. succeed, which I felt assured it wd. do if not delayed.—Sir George had been to-day at Mr. Angerstein's & expressed the warmest admiration of the *Rembrant* "The Woman taken in Adultery,"—as being the finest of all Rembrant's productions. Cosway's objection to it as not being by Rembrant was derided, & His ridiculous assertions & fancies laughed at. Sir George spoke in the highest manner of the excellent Landscape sketches made by West while at Bath, saying they were of as high a character as the designs of Nicolo Poussin, "*the true Heroic Landscape.*" Also of His very able design of "King Bladud discovering the virtues of the Bath waters."—Then touching upon West's extravagant acct. of His reception at Bath,—His vanity,—& ungrammatical expression,—He quoted the line from Pope, ending with, "A man so very high, so very low."

Buonaparte

We dined before 6 & did not go to tea till past 9.—We talked of Politics & agreed that the Country must either be what it now is or nothing.—Buonaparte has no half measures in His mind with us.—Sir George only feared *a Peace.*—Mr. Phipps spoke of Lord Hawkesberry† as being a very able man.—I told them that in Norfolk [he] was considered a sort of half madman.—Sir George said, C. Long [afterwards Lord Farnborough] had when Windham quitted Mr. Pitt wished, in his mind, the opposition joy over him. He sd. such was the nature of Windhams mind that while acting with Mr. Pitt & when He had proposed or supported a measure upon grounds which were admitted to be just & agreed to He would then begin to oppose His own reasoning & endeavour to shew that what He had before maintained was not fully established.—Thus wavering & indecissive there was no end to His doubts.—

Newspapers and the Public

December 5.—Lysons I dined with.—Smirke & myself met Davis, partner of Cadell, to speak of publications. Smirke's the intended publication of Don Quixotte ;—I upon the subject of views to accompany Lysons's Brittannia.—It was settled that Davis should call upon me in Charlotte St. to go further into the business.—He was not satisfied with what J. Byrne has lately done, & noticed His being disposed to think His plates finished before they properly were so.—He complained of the indisposition of the public to purchase literary works such as 30 years ago wd. have had a great sale—& instanced Roscoe's* last work, & a work published since by Dr. Gillies.†

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* British Gallery of Engravings (1807-1813), by the Rev. Edward Forster, F.R.S., F.S.A. He was born in 1769 and died in Paris in 1828. See Vol. III., page 54.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

He said nothing wd. insure a great sale but a name of the first reputation ; respectable names wd. not have the effect.—He said that even *Political Pamphlets* do not sell now as formerly ; the newspapers satisfy the people in this respect.—In other respects light superficial works are most read.—Booksellers who formerly, wd. have taken 30 copies of a work published with a respectable name, now take 5 or 6 copies.—He expressed much disatisfaction at several of Smith's‡ views in Cornwall ; particularly that of *a mine*,—which appeared like a Sand-pit, whereas He sd. a mine with the machinery, might be made a very grand subject.—

American Censure

December 7.—[This day appeared in the papers the message of Mr. Jefferson, President of the United States, to Congress delivered the 27th. of Oct.—It evinces more partiality to France than any document which the American government has for a long time published. While Mr. Jefferson declaims with great warmth against what He calls the depredations of this country on American commerce, the numerous aggressions of France are passed over without observation. Our Order of Council of the 7th of Jany. is strongly reprobated, but no censure is passed on the famous decree of Buonaparte which rendered the restrictions, prohibiting the trade from port to port of the enemy, necessary on our part. Of the Treaty concluded during the late Administration He says—" Some of the articles might have been admitted on a principle of compromise, but others were too highly disadvantageous " : but He does not point out the particular stipulations to which either of these observations apply.—The affair of the Chesapeke is mentioned with much irritation. The finances of the United States are stated to be very flourishing.—From small note-book.]

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* See Index, Vol. I.

† See Index, Vol. I.

‡ John Smith, known as " Warwick " Smith (1749-1831), water-colour painter. See Index, Vols. I. and III.

CHAPTER LXVIII

1807

Miss Walpole the Actress

December 8.—[Yesterday in the Court of Kings Bench, Thomas Graham Esqr. Solicitor of Lincolns-Innfields was prosecuted by Mrs. Atkyns of Norfolk, cidevant Miss Walpole,* the actress, charging Him with perjury in certain answers returned to a Bill in equity, filed in the Court of Chancery in His Capacity of Trustee, of certain estates belonging to Mr. Atkyns, deceased, husband to the Prosecutrix.—He was most honorably acquitted, & the conduct of Mr. Plowden, the Barrister, Her adviser, severely condemned, by the Attorney General, Sir V. Gibbs,†—and by Lord Elenborough.‡—After the Attorney General had replied to the accusation Mr. Garrow would proceed no further in the case. It appeared that Mr. Graham had been a great friend of the family, and prevented it from ruin.

Miss Brunton,§ the actress, a few days since sent in Her resignation to the Managers of Covent Garden Theatre, preparatory to Her nuptials with the Earl of Craven, who by the marriage articles has settled £5000 a year upon Her [see December 11].—From small note-book.]

Coleridge and Kindness

December 9.—[Humphry] Davy|| of the Royal Institution is in a dangerous state—a low fever, pulse 120—drinks a bottle of wine a

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* Charlotte Walpole, the actress, was a friend of Marie Antoinette and wife of Edward A. Atkyns, of Ketteringham Hall, Norfolk. There is a stipple engraving of her in the British Museum after a portrait by H. W. Bunbury, showing her when Miss Walpole in the character of Nancy in Tickell's *The Camp*. She died in 1836.

† See Index, Vols. II. and III.

‡ See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

§ Miss Louise Brunton (1785?-1860) was a daughter of John Brunton, the actor, and made her first appearance at Covent Garden in 1803. Her principal parts included Lady Townley in *The Provoked Husband*, Cecilia in *As You like It*, Anne Bullen in *Henry VIII.* and Lady Anne in *Richard III.*

|| See Vol. III., page 165.

day.—Has lately discovered in Chymistery what oversets Lavoisian system.—Hoppner dined at Richd. Sharpe's, Fenchurch St. on Saturday night. Coleridge was of the party. Hoppner did not like Him. At Malta Coleridge recd. kindness from —— *Stodart*, who was settled there in a civil capacity. Stodart who is now in England has complained of Coleridge not having called upon Him.—This Smirke has been told & that kindness makes little of lasting impression upon Him.—

December 10.—Academy Annual General Meeting I went to. The Premiums were given, the meeting being in the *Council Room.*—

For Historial painting, the subject, "The Wisdom of Solomon"—

Lascelles Hoppner*	14	votes appd.
Hilton	1	do.

Turner Professor of Perspective

After delivering the Medals Mr. West, the President assigned us a reason for not giving a discourse that there was much business appointed for that even'g, He therefore read an exhortation to the Students recommending to them the Study of *Character* in figures,—also a close & continued study of the Antique in order to acquire a pure taste & knowledge of perfect form, & not to be eager to go from the Model Academy where they had the benefit of Mr. Fuseli's advice, to the Life Academy before they were properly prepared.—He sd. the Greeks in Architecture as well as in Sculpture, had left models of pure taste, & lamented that in England we see too many examples not of imitations or founded upon the Greek taste, but of the bad taste which has prevailed in Italy.—He read His exhortation very ill & mispronounced words. He said "*perspective*" for "*perspicuous.*"—On delivering the gold medal to *Lascelles Hoppner*

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* William Lascelles Hoppner, second son of John Hoppner, according to the Academician's granddaughter, had as sponsors "the Hon. Edwin Lascelles" and Colonel Wilson Braddyll. This statement apparently is not quite correct. Edwin Lascelles was never "the Honourable." He was Mr. Edwin Lascelles until created Baron of Harewood in 1790, and the barony became extinct at his death on January 25th, 1795. He was succeeded in his estates by his cousin Edward Lascelles, who was created Baron Harewood of Harewood on June 18th, 1795, and Viscount Lascelles and Earl of Harewood on September 7th, 1812.

This was the Mr. Lascelles referred to by Farington, on page 108 of the first volume of the Diary, as having been Hoppner's host at Harewood in 1795, and the "young Mr. Lascelles, who has a taste for the arts and has practised a little," was Edward, his eldest son, afterwards Viscount Lascelles. It was he who was godfather to Hoppner's second son. While Edward Viscount Lascelles was at Harewood Turner met Mr. Fawkes of Farnley there, at which time (1798) Turner made and signed two water-colour drawings of Harewood House for the Viscount, and Girtin, Varley, and Hoppner also painted views of the mansion for him. There are at Harewood two portraits of his Lordship by Hoppner, which are not recorded in the "Life of Hoppner" by Messrs. Mackay and Roberts, but the latter catalogues a portrait of him as belonging to the Earl of Morton, and another of "Mrs. Lascelles," wife of Henry, second Earl of Harewood.

The present Viscount Lascelles is himself a collector of very considerable taste and judgment.

He made no observation ; but on giving the Medal to *Busby* He complimented him [upon] the ability He had displayed.—Hoppner afterwards took notice of this to me & was much mortified at it.—

The Students having withdrawn, the Members proceeded to ballot for a Professor of *Perspective.* Turner being the only Candidate the ballot was taken by each Member writing *Aye*, or *No.* Turner won by 25 votes to one and Tresham was elected Professor of Painting. Northcote had three votes.

Northcote's Declarations

All the Students who recd. premiums except Busby took them bowing without speaking, but He bowed & then in a short speech returned His thanks.—Northcote* expected to lose the election, & I told Him I had found many members who were well disposed to Him in general objected to the declarations He had made respecting the works of Nicolo Poussin & other acknowledged great masters, saying How cd. they vote for a member to be a Professor of Painting whose sentiments were at such variance with their own and those of bygone ages.—He sd. Opie had made similar declarations.—I said " not in so public a manner."—He then sd. He found He was to suffer from the indiscretions of His speeches, as He had done for what He had sd. of Mr. Pitt for which He supposed Mr. Phipps &c. wd. never be upon terms with Him.—He then expressed a wish to be a *Visitor*, which I told Him there wd. be no doubt of.—I shook hands with Sandby & had lively conversation with Him for the first time in many years.—

* See Vols. I., II. and III.

CHAPTER LXIX

1807

Embargo on Russian Vessels

December 11.—[An Order of Council for an Embargo to be laid on all Russian vessels, & to prevent any vessels from being permitted to enter & clear out for Russia was issued by the King in Council on the 9th. inst.—and further for the seizing & detaining all Russian vessels whensoever met but that the utmost care be taken for the preservation of all & every part of the cargoes on board of any of the sd. ships or vessels.—

Sir Stephen Shairpe, the British Consul in Russia, in a letter to the Governor & Company of Russia merchants dated St. Petersburgh, Novr. 11 informs them,—"That the Seals of Government have been put upon all the warehouses of British merchants, & of British subjects, who are foreign guests"; and that an embargo had been laid on all British Ships at Cronstadt &c.

This afternoon Earl Craven aged 36, was married to Miss Brunton aged 24 the Actress of Covent Garden, at His Lordships House, Hill St. Berkeley Square, in the presence of Genl. & Mrs. St. John, the Hon: Berkely Craven, & the nearest relatives of the Lady. Mr. Brunton, her Father, gave Her away.—From small note-book.]

Sheridan's Impecuniosity

December 12.—Heath [the engraver] called to desire me to again to take the care of the Landscape by Gainsborough belonging to Mr. Sheridan,* upon which & two others by the same, he advanced to Sheridan £500, which sum Miss Linwood† paid Heath to have the opportunity of copying them in Needlework & as a security for the money.—Heath told me that when Sheridan gave a great entertainment to the Prince of Wales, He desired the pictures might be placed in His House that He might seem to have His property abt. Him, but Heath had a hint to take the pictures away in abt. 2 months or they might be seized.—Heath keeps them for Miss Linwood.

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* R. B. Sheridan. See Vols. I., II. and III.

† See Vol. III., page 53.

He sd. it was thought by some that Lascelles Hoppner though He had obtained the gold medal had not painted the best picture. I told Him eminent Members of the Academy who did not associate with Hoppner, were of opinion that the picture by Lascelles Hoppner had more promise in it than the other.—He sd. He cd. not suppose that Turner can be sufficiently informed of the Science of Perspective to qualify Him to give Lectures in it.—Tresham, He sd. has got the Professorship of Painting, which He has been long looking to & may give Poetry with His Lectures.—He mentioned the insanity of Sheldon Professor of Anatomy in the Academy, & sd. Mr. Wilson who had the care of Dr. Wm. Hunters museum wd. willingly act as a Substitute for Him witht. reward.—He told me He reckoned that He shd. be able to finish the Plate of *the death of Lord Nelson* from West's picture in abt. 2 years more. He sd. for the sake of introducing many portraits, West has put in so many Heads that something of a spotty effect is produced by it which will be difficult to regulate.—

The Foundling Hospital

Mr. David Pike Watts's* I dined at.—Mr. Watts told me that Mr. Bernard quitted his residence at the Foundling Hospital in consequence of having had continual disputes abt. the management of the concerns of the Hospital, with a party of which Mr. Everitt of Bedford Square was the Head & His principal opponent.—Mr. Watts sd. Mr. Bernard & Mr. Everitt were the *Pitt & Fox* of the Foundling Hospital.—He spoke highly of the good disposition of Mrs. Bernard who witht. assuming anything is highly accomplished, speaking several languages &c. Mr. Bernard has much knowledge of building, & speculates in that way by buying or erecting Houses under His own superintendence.—

Crotch and Catalani

Dr. Crotch† spoke of *Catalani* the Singer. He said she is modest in her deportment & a good Mother to Her Children.—Of Her powers as a Singer He said she has an admirable *delivery* of Her voice, so that the words she expresses may be heard when she is a hundred feet from those who listen to Her. She has the true Italian delivery, which is distinct & flowing, & so generally does this power belong to the Italians that even indifferent singers of that Country posess it.—She has also taste & sings with so much feeling that He had not heard her 5 minutes before his eyes watered.—Her defects are that she frequently sings out of tune & overloads Her songs with flourishes, such as Operate on the *Gallery* of the Opera, but destroy the simplicity which shd. prevail, in her singing. —He said there is in many a strong prejudice against Her.—

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* Constable's uncle. See Vol. III., page 181.

† On October 18, 1779, it was announced in an advertisement that " Mrs. Crotch is arrived in town, with her son, the Musical Child [not yet five years old], who will perform on the organ every day as usual, from one o'clock to three, at Mrs. Hart's, Milliner's, Piccadilly." Such was the introduction to London of William Crotch (1775-1847), who was born in Green's Lane, Norwich, to Michael Crotch and his wife Isabella. He first began to play on an organ built by his father, performed at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, at the age of fifteen. Soon thereafter he became organist of St. John's College, Oxford, Professor of Music at the University in 1797, and on the establishment of the Royal Academy of Music in 1822 he was appointed first Principal. His musical compositions include the juvenile " The Captivity of Judah," written in 1789 (a work wholly distinct from the oratorio of the same name in 1834), and " Palestine," his most important work, which was produced on April 29, 1812, at the Hanover Square Rooms. It is not definitely known when he settled in London, but Farington proves that he was here in December, 1807.

Crotch's last public appearance was at Westminster Abbey on June 28, 1834, when he played the organ at a Handel Festival.

Overcharged with Wind

Of Madame *Mara*,* He spoke very highly. He thought she sung with *more feeling* than anyone, but Her *delivery* was in the German stile. *Porta mento* is the word used by Dr. Burney for *delivery*. He explained what He meant by German delivery by comparing it with the pipe of an instrument so overcharged with wind, as to prevent the sounds from flowing smoothly & easily.—

Of Mrs. Billington† He sd. that she never afforded Him the least pleasure. She had as much execution as Madame Mara, & a very fine voice, but not the least feeling.—

Madame Grassini‡ had a very fine figure & fine action, but Her voice & powers were inferior to Catalani—Mara, & Billington,—yet such is the modesty of Catalani, that speaking to Mrs. Forster, (Miss Bankes) she sd. " Grassini cd. have sung this better than I can do."

The Noblest Music

After tea Dr. Crotch played a considerable time on a Piano Forte. West asked Him which is the noblest of all musical compositions. Crotch answered, " The last Chorus of the Messiah," adding, " it comprehends all the excellencies of musical composition."

West said He last night recd. a letter from Fulton at New York, who informed Him that He has invented & established a *Passage Boat* to be navigated by *Steam* only.—It goes to Albany twice a week & carries 70 Passengers, & in less time by 15 Hours than the Boat which carries the mail.—

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* See Vol. I., page 60.

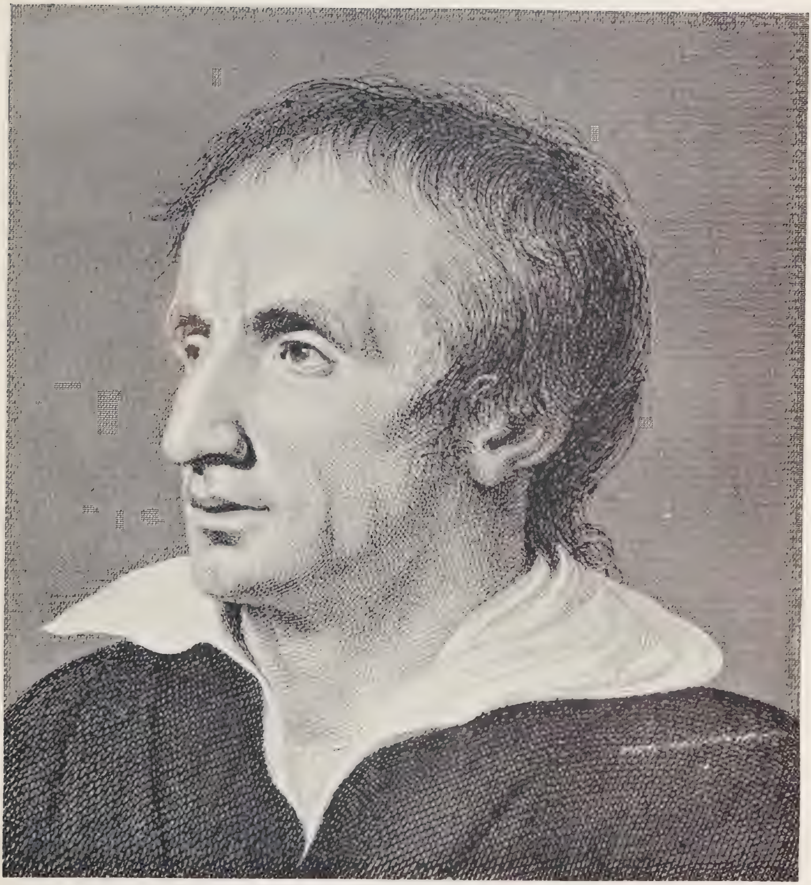
† See Vol. I., page 21.

‡ Josephina Grassini was born in Lombardy in 1773, and was engaged to succeed Banti (see Vol. I., pages 60 and 307) to sing from March to July at a salary of £3,000. Grassini left London in 1806 and died at Milan in 1850. Vigée's portrait of her as Zaire in Winter's opera was engraved by S. W. Reynolds.

Wordsworth and Wilkie

Constable spoke of a picture of *Card players* now painting by Wilkie as being most admirably executed as far as is done. He was with Wilkie yesterday who told Him that when he has made a Sketch for a picture & settled His design, He then walks about looking for a person proper to be a model for completing each character in his picture, & He paints *everything from the life.*—He sd. He sometimes walks abt. for a *week* before He can meet with the character of head &c. that will suit Him.—

Constable says, He has great resolution of mind & is not likely to be affected by the ill-judged suggestions of those who obtrude them upon Him.—He sd. the *Card Players* He shall finish not declaring it to be for any particular person but when finished will see who is disposed to offer most for it.—He was offended with *Wordsworth* who offered to *propose* subjects to Him to paint, & gave Him to understand that when He could not think of subjects as well as paint them He wd. come to Him.—



William Wordsworth
From a Print in the British Museum

[*To face p.* 238

CHAPTER LXX

1807

Wordsworth's High Opinion of Himself

December 12.—Constable told me that Wilkie has complained to Him of the loss of time & interruption He suffers from going down to the Admiralty to paint the Mother of Lord Mulgrave with all Her Paraphernalia. He sd. that when He has proceeded on his work at Home one day & feels eager to go on with it the next He is obliged to leave it for the above purpose.

Constable remarked upon the high opinion Wordsworth entertains of Himself. He told Constable that while He was a Boy going to Hawkshead School, His mind was often so posessed with images so lost in extraordinary conceptions, that He has held by a wall not knowing but He was part of it.—He also desired a Lady, Mrs. Loyd, near Windermere when Constable was present to notice the singular formation of His Skull.—Coleridge remarked that this was the effect of intense thinking. —I observed to Constable if so, He must have thought in His Mother's womb.

At Carlisles, Sotheby sd. that Wordsworths poetry not only surpassed any that had ever been written but wd. probably never be equalled. Thus do these persons bepraise each other.—

Money and Mentality

Mr. Watts said He had observed that men who deal in money & have much to do in *accounts of money* suffer from it in their *mental powers*, which by such kind of exertion are weakened. He had known *Bankers* who had proved the truth of it. West upon this sd. that exertion in his art did not produce the same effect & that study to Him is necessary & grateful.—Carlisle then took up the subject to shew that the business of calculating sums is a great strain upon the mind, being forced & dry unaccompanied by any amusement.—

Mr. Watts said a gentleman at Putney having provided an entertainment for a Company invited a *singing man* to add to the amusement who was to be paid for it. When the Desert was set on a Pine apple was placed upon the table, which the singing man caught at without ceremony and cut deep into it helping himself to a large part of it. The gentleman seeing this went out of the room & soon after the singing man was called out, and the gentleman addressing gave Him the money He was to receive & dismissed Him by telling Him His company was no longer desired.—

We were much pleased with the kind attention of Mr. Watts who was solicitous to oblige us.—He expressed to me His knowledge of the notice I had taken of His nephew, Mr. Constable & how sensible Constable was of my goodness.—

The King and Smirke

December 14.—Mr. West I called upon before 12 oClock & remained with Him till past 4, the whole time passed in conversation.—We first talked of the business of Thursday next at the Academy General Meeting, and He expressed a desire that it should be confined to settling a question to be decided by the King respecting the *rotation of Council*,—which as it now stands would be alternately 4 one year & 3 the next; owing to 5 new Council having been admitted this year.—He wished the business of raising the Salaries of the Officers of the Academy to be postponed to enable Him in a private interview with His Majesty to prepare Him for it.—This I approved & sd. I wd. act accordingly.—He thought the Salaries of the Keeper, & of the Secretary might be increased to £50 a yr. & that of the Treasurer to £100.—I asked Him what He thought occasioned the King to strike *Smirke's*[*] name out when offered to Him for Keeper of the Royal Academy.—He said He could inform me of it. It originated with *Richards*, who induced Beechey to go to the King (He being then in favor with His Majesty) with such a representation of Smirke as to establish a prejudice against Him in His Majesty's mind.

That Damned Academy Business

Lord Somerville who was then much with the King, said to a person who communicated it to West "That Beechey had been with the King about that damned Academy business."—West had a full proof of the interest Richards took in the rejection of Smirke when His name was carried up as being elected Keeper.—The King on seeing the name on the paper said "I thought I should not have seen this name" or words to that effect, & then proceeded to draw a line through it & to write a note of rejection.—After the King had done *this*, *Richards advanced to His Majesty*, *& thanked Him for what He had done.*—West was the only person then present.—I asked West what could cause Richards to act so malignant a part? He said it was owing to Smirke having made an attack upon Him in the Academy, at the great dinner, for having allowed His name to be printed in the Catalogue of the Exhibition against a picture painted by His Son Richd. Smirke. This made Richards, who never forgives anything, his implacable enemy.

[*] Robert Smirke. See Vols. I., II. and III.

I said that those who attended the King during His last illness, *medical men*, had mentioned that the King at times raved upon Smirke's name as a Democrat, and of course it must be concluded that such an accusation had been made against him.—West replied That Wyatt was the person who had first prejudiced the King's mind against the Academicians as Democrats & prepared Him to receive such a representation as Beechey might give.—He then said He, Wyatt, had ruined the King, as He had done *Mr. Beckford of Fonthill.* The Kings private purse had been exhausted by Him in building at *Kew* & in other places, & now everything is *at* a stand, & many persons left in a situation subjected to great losses.

CHAPTER LXXI

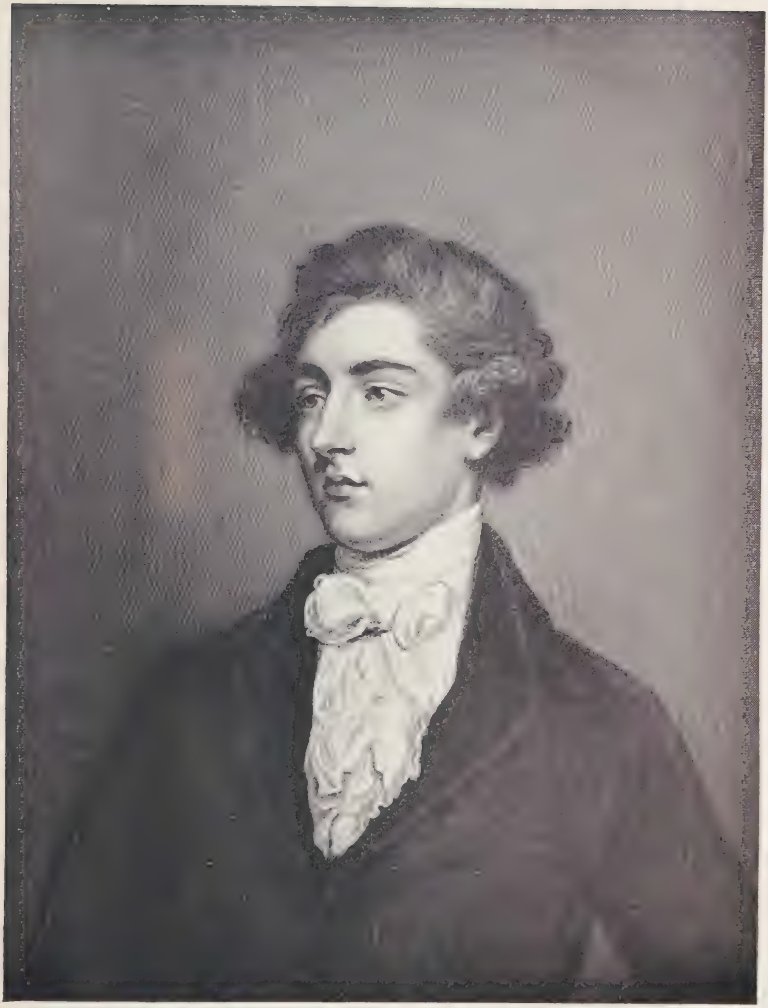
1807

Beckford and his Fortune

December 14.—He [West] told me that the latter end of October, while He was at Bath, Mr. Beckford, requested him to come to Fonthill, which He did & staid there three days. Mr. Beckford represented to Him the state of His affairs, exhibiting a very great change indeed from His former situation. Four years ago the building of the *Abbey* at Fonthill had cost £242,000. He showed that Wyatt by His negligence & inattention, had caused Him an unnecessary expense of £30,000.—He said that at present, such is the state of Commerce, that His Jamaica estates are rather an expense to Him than a source of Income;—That He had to answer claims upon Him been obliged to sell his estate in *Bedfordshire* which brought £62,000 & His estate in the neighboroud of St. Pancrass for £12,000.—Nothing now remains to Him but His unproductive *Jamaica* estates, & the *Fonthill estate*, which is reckoned at £10000 a year; more might be made of it were the extensive park & grounds turned to greater advantage. Upon this income He knows it is impossible to keep up His former establishment, & He has accordingly reduced it to a very limited scale compared with what it had been.—His carriages & Horses have been sent away for sale & Coachman, grooms & attendants, discharged.—He also desired West to assist Him in disposing of His valuable collection of pictures and drawings, saying at the same time, He should feel much at parting with them as they never could be recovered by Him.—

Beckford and Persecution

I asked West how He was in spirits? He said, He appeared to bear it in a manly manner, saying, He had been accustomed to *persecution* & mortification, observing that the change from what He had experienced in early life had been great indeed. Then incense was offered to Him & flowers strewed in his way wherever He went.—He seemed to think His education had not been conducted judiciously, and that being brought up in private, He had not experienced those checks which are useful. That at a public school He should have been exposed to make His way among others, taking the consequences of things as they might happen.



WILLIAM BECKFORD (VATHEK)
Painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds
From a Print in the British Museum, engraved by T. A. Dean

[*To face p.* 242

He has at times spoken of the charge which has caused Society to withdraw from Him, which He always represents to be persecution founded in injustice & falsehood. He says He can never forgive Himself for two things: One the breaking His promise to His Mother who urged Him not to go to Powderham Castle (Lord Courtneys)* at the time He did, when the affair took place which has so much injured His reputation;—and the other His yielding to the entreaties of His wife, Lady Margaret Beckford to quit England, & go for a time to *Swisserland*,—while this matter was agitating the public mind.—Dr. Lettice, His ci-devant Tutor, & Lord Thurlow, both seconded Lady Margaret in Her endeavour to effect this point.—

In Love with Beckford

West said, that Mr. Beckford's mother never believed Her Son to have been *criminal*. She wished Him, she told West, not to visit at Powderham Castle as she was convinced there were persons who wished to injure His reputation & lower His importance. She said the fact was, that Lady Loughborough, aunt to Lord Courtney, was in love with Beckford, and had a correspondence with Him by letter, while on this visit at Powderham Castle, & Lord Courtney then a Boy, carried the letters, one of which He so mismanaged that it fell into wrong hands, which Beckford discovering & being very passionate, He went to Lord Courtney's room, while He was in bed, it being morning, & locking the door, He horsewhipped Him, which causing the Boy to scream out, His Tutor came to the door & found it *locked*. This gave cause for the suspicion & the reports which were soon after circulated.—

I listened to this relation which with many other circumstances was given to Him by Mr. Beckford's [mother] when at Her desire He visited Her alone at Her House at Hampstead; but I could not but feel the improbability of much of the story, it not at all agreeing with many other well authenticated circumstances, & being in itself difficult to give credit to; and from all I have heard the stories told to clear Mr. Beckford have not been well considered; though on the other hand, it does not appear that there is any proof actually to support the charge against Him.—

West told me that Lord Aboyne, brother to the late Lady Margaret Beckford, who went down to Fonthill to effect a separation between Her & Mr. Beckford after the report was circulated, and quitted them in the most hostile manner, has of late written to & had intercourse with Mr. Beckford.—Lady Margaret was pregnant at the time & continued attached to Mr. Beckford till Her death which happened two or three years afterwards while they were abroad.

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* William Viscount Courtenay (1768-1835), declared Earl of Devon on May 14, 1831, by the House of Lords. Dying unmarried, the Viscountcy became extinct, and the Earldom of Devon devolved on another branch of the Courtenay family, as heirs male of the guarantee of 1553.

Lawrence's Bravura

I asked West how He liked the portrait of Mr. Pitt painted by Lawrence. He said it was a remarkably strong likeness, & had so much of what may be called individuality in it, touches abt. the eyes, & nostrils, which are only seen when a picture is attentively painted from the life, that it surprised Him how such circumstances cd. be retained in the memory.—He then expressed an apprehension, & intended to mention it to Lawrence, that He is now endeavouring to give to His pictures that sort of pencilling & execution as will show them to have been painted with facility that kind of Bravura that carries a great charm with it; but that it is done at the expence of *truth* & want of *correct drawing*, both being sometimes sacrificed by Him to it.—He said " take off Mr. Pitt's coat, & no *body* would be found under it,"—the points of Shoulder, the elbow, & the wrist, are not measured & indicated.—He said if Lawrence was to proceed in this way He would gradually become *incorrect* & a *mannerist*.—He then spoke of Him as an artist in high terms, & laughed at the idea of comparing any other artist with Him.—

CHAPTER LXXII

1807

America Desires to Remain Neutral

December 14.—I asked West what He thought of our situation with America. He said, that Jefferson in his message to the Senate had seemed rather Hostile to this country, which was to humour the people who still remain irritated about the Chesapeake business,—that the great object of America is to preserve their neutrality, but if they should be forced by Buonaparte to declare themselves it will be for *this Country.*—

Art in France

He spoke of the vast encouragement given to Artists in France at this period. He dined in company with a young American of extraordinary talents a few days ago, who was just arrived from France, & stated, that David has now a Commission from the Government (Buonaparte) to paint 6 pictures each 40 feet wide, the subjects the great actions of the French under Buonaparte &c.—Vincent & other artists are also thus employed.—

He Meant Farington

We talked of filling the Office of Secretary to the Academy in case of the death or inability of Richards. I told Him that when in the last Summer He said to me "*That there was one person who above all others was most fit for that office*," that I could not but know from his previous opinions & His manner, that He meant *myself*, He sd. He certainly did. —I added that Smirke had much urged me to take the office & that Daniell joined Him in it.—He then said that of the Academy excepting a few members, I should be certain, it remained only to be assured that I should not meet the fate of *Smirke* with the *King*. To prevent this, He would endeavour to find out how the King's mind stands at present, by bringing forward my name as a person likely to be thought of by the Academy in case of a vacancy.—He wd. also do what wd. be equally necessary viz: endeavour to dispose the minds of those who are about the King favorably to me.—

West and His Taxes

He told me He had lately been called upon by the Commissioners appointed for the Property Tax at the instance of their *Surveyor* who had not been satisfied with His return, & had accordingly rated Him to pay *Sixty-three pounds* a quarter. He attended a Board at which Mr. Collins of Berners-street presided & it was so ordered that few were present. He showed that the Income which He receives from the King & upon which He lives is the *payment of a debt, not a gift;* & that it is for work done long since. That as Surveyor of pictures, that part of His Income has 10 per cent deducted before it is paid to Him. Mr. Collins then asked Him what He wd. propose to pay [on what he] supposed to be the average annual gains from his profession, & He named a Sum with which Mr. Collins expressed Himself satisfied.—

Bubb Doddington

Speaking of how much He knew of the secret movements of the Court of this country and how much a few individuals had contributed to produce great much to be regretted effects, He said, that Had He like *Bubb Doddington*, kept a *diary** it would have been a most curious & interesting record, & would have explained much that is accounted for in other ways.

December 15.—Constable called & told me that Miss Watts had yesterday expressed to Him that Her Father had great pleasure in the party which assembled at His House on Saturday last. Mr. Watts afterwards confirmed it, & hoped that He might have many such meetings.—Constable then told me that the rough manners of the late Mr. Ben Kenton† who left Mr. Watts His great fortune, rather caused Him to go to the opposite side in manners than to imitate Him, & in consequence He was called, Constables mother, Mr. Watts's sister, said a milk sop, and attended & acted in the management of Balls & Assemblies.—

We talked of Dr. Crotch who married the daughter of a Bookseller, an old attachment, & has children. He said Crotch is a very natural character, not assuming anything, & on that acct. profits less by His profession than many do who assume a great deal.—He said that *Bartleman*,‡ the Singer, has 3 guineas a night, when He goes to assist at musical parties, & that now Dr. Crotch has the same.—He had been for several times at musical parties at Charles Greville's* at Paddington, & Greville on His coming away wd. say to Him "Really unless you will fix terms on which you will allow us to have your assistance I cannot request it." Accordingly Crotch informed Him that His terms were 3 guineas a night, since which time Greville has never requested His attendance.

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* George Bubb Dodington (1691-1762), politician, wit, and verse writer, belonged to an old Somerset family, and was in April, 1761, created Baron Melcombe of Melcombe Regis, in Dorsetshire. Cumberland's "Memoirs" give an excellent description of Dodington, and a life of him was published recently. His Diary appeared in 1784.

† See entry December 1.

‡ James Bartleman (1769-1821) was educated under Dr. Cooke at the Choristers' School, Westminster Abbey, and became famous as a bass singer. He was buried in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, and his valuable musical library was sold by White, the auctioneer, of Storey's Gate.

Constable related another anecdote of Greville.—A beautiful young woman called *Emily*, who lived for a time with Greville & afterwards went to Bengal with Pott, son to the Surgeon, sat to Sir Joshua Reynolds for a picture in which she was represented as THAIS.† This picture when finished Greville could not pay for, but proposed to the present Lord Dysart to take it, & He was to have it for the sum paid if He should claim it. But Greville not being influenced by any strong desire for it, allowed near 30 years to pass witht. applying for [it], but lately on the reputation of Sir Joshua rising, & this picture being spoken of He put in his claim for it & took away paying the 100 guineas which Lord Dysart had paid for it.—The transaction, however, has not been agreeable to the Dysart family though His Lordship who prefers *peace* to everything else has submitted to it.—

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* The Hon. Charles Greville, second son of the eighth Baron Brooke and first Earl of Warwick. He was an early friend of Emma Hart (Nelson's Emma), and his portrait is included by Reynolds in one of the latter's Dilettanti pictures. Romney also painted his portrait (1781), and it was engraved by Meyer and reproduced in Bourke's "History of White's Club."

On August 8th, 1788, Greville wrote to Romney: "Sir William [Hamilton] made me a present of his portrait, and I gave him mine, which is now at Naples. . . . You will therefore include in Sir William's note his portrait and all the pictures sent to Naples, except my portrait, which, with the Straw Hat, you will charge to me."

† Mr. R. W. Egerton, of Stansty Lodge, Wrexham, writes: The "Emily" of the Farington Diary, published in the *Morning Post* of 12th February, 1923, is referred to in the second volume of the "Memoirs of William Hickey, 1775-1782." In Ch. XIX. entitled "Mrs. Pott," Emily Warren is frequently mentioned.

"Sir Joshua Reynolds . . . had painted Emily's portrait many times, and in different characters. He often declared every limb of hers perfect in symmetry, and altogether he had never seen so faultless and finely formed a human figure."

"In Ch. XXIV. of the same book, page 322, is an account of Emily Warren's departure for India with Mr. Robert Pott."

[Emily Warren (alias Bertie, alias Bet. Coventry) sat to Sir Joshua Reynolds for the picture of "Thaïs." Moreover, it was Charles Greville who paid for the full-length portrait, as recorded in the Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds by Graves and Cronin.—ED.]

CHAPTER LXXIII

1807

Extravagance

December 17.—Mrs. Hankin (late Mrs. D. Springhall) stated that Her nephew Danl. Wakefield had lived 5 years with the young woman, who by the decission of Sir Wm. Scott, has been declared to be His wife. While the validity of the marriage was contesting He was ordered by the Court to allow Her a certain Sum weekly for Her support. For this He was obliged to apply to His Mother, who by work & by writing for reviews, & for other publications, was enabled to supply Him though with much difficulty & self denial even to wanting suitable Cloaths for Herself,—which caused her Sister to profer Cloaths to Her.—Edward Wakefield quitted His farm boasting of having £20,000 but upon examination it has been found that He is not worth anything.—He does not reside with His wife, and their children, 5 or 6 are with Mrs. Wakefield & other friends.—Danl. Wakefield* by the extravagance of the Woman He has married is also greatly in debt.—

Application

General Meeting at the Academy I went to.—

I walked home with West. He told me that for 6 weeks at this dark Season of the year, He seldom does anything in Painting, but employs His time in writing and regulating various concerns. He said that He is slow in bringing His mind to bear upon a subject but when once His mind is occupied by one *He is a Child to everything else*, till He has completed what He has undertaken ;—He then can go to another with equal attention to it. He said, "That a Painter who does not posess His mind fully with His subject and proceed unremittingly upon it till it is finished, but on the contrary runs from one subject to another will do little."—He told me His usual time of rising in a morning at this Season is a quarter before 9 oClock or at 9, and to breakfast a little before 10.—He is generally in bed about 12 oClock.—When the days become longer & the weather warmer, He rises sometimes at 6 oClock.

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* Daniel Wakefield (1776-1846), barrister and writer on political economy, was the second son of Edward Wakefield, a London merchant, and his wife Priscilla, daughter of Bell (1751-1833). She, as a philanthropist, established several savings banks, called " frugality banks." She was, however, most widely known as a writer of children's books, her most popular works including " The Juvenile Travellers."

Priscilla was his second wife, he having been married first to a Miss Elizabeth Jackson (see under November 18, 1807).

The Edward Wakefield (1774-1854) referred to was Daniel's brother, who was a farmer near Romford, in Essex, an authority on agriculture, philanthropist, and statistician—he was the author of " Ireland, Statistical and Politicial," published in 1812.

December 18.—Lawrence [said] Sir Francis Baring usually rises at half-past 9 in the morning,—breakfast ¼ past 10; dines ¼ past 6,—eats gruel at Eleven,—and goes to bed, the last of His company, at half-past Eleven or towards twelve oClock.—*He is an Advocate for long rest.*—Sir Francis is an Advocate for His friend, the Late Marquiss of Lansdowne, who, He acknowledges, was suspected of duplicity & insincerity, but His manner which was courteous and His being solicitous to please arose, Sir Francis says, from the gratification He had in seeing others happy.—

A Nation of Traders

Lord Reddesdale* has lately sat to Lawrence. His Lordship is so perpetual a talker that Lawrence has felt Himself wearied by it,—He has spoken of the declaration published by Spence & Cobbet, "That Commerce is not necessary to the prosperity of this Country."—He allows that the Commercial influence has been carried too far, & subjected us to be called a Nation of traders, but that Commerce has undoubtedly contributed to raise this country to its present importance. Lawrence thinks the Ministry are inclined rather to favor this new opinion so far as to reconcile them to such privations & difficulties as must attend the present state of things.—

Led Astray

Lawrence read a letter recd. from a Lady a friend of Lady Crewe, giving a dreadful acct. of the profligate conduct of Mr. Crewe, only Son of Lord Crewe. It is stated that Lord Crewe can never see Him again, His vices & His expences have been unbounded. On his late marriage thousands were advanced to discharge His debts, but the money was applied by a *Major James*, an evil adviser & pander, to relieve Lord Moira from some of His distresses. James has acted a similar part to each, promoting their profligate expences. Young Mrs. Crewe says Her Husband has hitherto behaved well to Her, and she believes He has rather been led into vice & expence than gone to it from disposition.† Lord Moira's estate in Ireland is no longer *His own*, but this at present is endeavoured to be kept a secret from His wife, Lady Loudon.—

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* See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

† John Crewe (who became the second Baron Crewe in 1829), baptised 1772, at St. George's, Hanover Square, was a Major-General in the Army in 1808, Lieutenant-General in 1813, and General in 1830. He married on May 5, 1807, Henrietta Maria Anne, daughter of George Walker-Hungerford, of Calne, Wilts, and died on December 4, 1835, at his château near Liège. To the present Marquess of Crewe belongs the well-known portrait of John Crewe as a child in fancy dress, a Henry VIII., by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

December 19.—Wm. Wells [shipbuilder and picture collector] said that He saw at Cronstadt Russians working upon the Fortifications there. He saw a Groupe of them at dinner which consisted of *bread* & *onions;* after which each of them drank a glass of *train oil*, which they did with much apparent relish.—

The Royal Family Leave

December 20.—The newspapers of this day give the Gazette of last night containing information from Sir Sidney Smith dated Decr. 6th. stating "That the Prince Regent of Portugal, with the whole of the Royal Family, consisting of 15 persons, had embarked for the Brazils, with 7 sail of the Line. Five Frigates, Three armed Brigs, & upwards of 30 Brazil Merchant Vessels.—That, the Portuguese fleet is attended by His Majesty's Ships Marlborough, London, Monarch, & Bedford, under the command of Captn. Moore. One Line of Battleship is on its way to Plymouth. Only one serviceable Portuguese Line of Battle Ship and 3 Hulks had been left in the Tagus. Eight Russian Line of Battle Ships remained in the Tagus, only 3 of which were in a condition for Sea."—"Rear Admiral Sir Sidney Smith has resumed the blockade of the Port of Lisbon with 5 sail of the Line, & will probably by this time have been joined by an additional squadron of line of battle-Ships."

J. Offley's I dined at.—Much satisfaction expressed at the news from Portugal. The Lisbon and Oporto Club of Merchants trading to those places gave an entertainment on Friday last to the Portuguese Ambassador and His Secretary at the London Tavern where the Club is held. J. & C. Offley, members of the Club, were there. The dinner was at 7 oClock, abt. 18 sat down, & remained till past Eleven, when they removed to another room to Coffee &c. The dinner was sumptuous. In the Desert were Pines &c. Champaigne, Burgundy, Hock, Tokay &c. &c. were the wines.—This Club is limited to 30 in number, & the meetings are held the first Thursday in every month for 8 months, including the Winter Season.—Each member subscribes 5 guineas annually, & pays 5 shillings each time of his dining at the Club.

Death of Angelica Kauffman

December 23.—[At the General Assembly of the Royal Academy West] read the letter which was a translation of a letter recd. by Bonomi from Rome informing Him of the death of Angelica Kauffman* at Rome, on the 5th of Novr. last, & mentioning many particulars of Her piety & resignation. It was resolved that a copy of the letter should be entered upon the records of the Society.—Hoppner then observed that the death of Academicians had not hitherto been noticed with proper respect. He therefore moved & it was agreed to unanimously, that upon the death of an Academician, a General Assembly should be convened to receive a report of it.—

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* See Index, Vol. I., and entry under January 6, 1808.

Tresham then began to speak, Whether the vacancy made by the death of Angelica shd. be filled in *Febry. next.*—I replied that upon the death of Wm. Hamilton the Academy going only by the *printed book*, acted upon the original law & filled the vacancy made by His death; but the printed book is a *false representation;* the original Law made in 1769 was repealed on the 12th of Novr. 1770 and no further entry respecting it appears upon the records.—It stands then that 3 months notice shall be given to the Academicians of a vacancy of an Academician before it is filled up.—I then referred to the books, showed them the law & the repeal of it, & they became convinced that it ought not to be otherways than that 3 months notice should be given & consequently that Angelica Kauffman's seat cannot be filled before Febry. 1809.—Soane agreed with me strongly. Tresham was the only one that hesitated, but He agreed to it, & it was resolved unanimously to act agreeably to the Law of 1770.—

Hoppner expressed to the President His concern that He shd. have listened to Richards so far as to have agreed to postpone appointing a Secretary in His room: sd. He had not been fit for the Office in the last 10 years; and perhaps never was.—

It was a very amicable meeting. Copley found me in the room *alone*, & accosted me civilly, the first time in several years.—He appeared to me to have suffered much in *His faculties:* His mind seemed to be incapable of comprehending what was going forward.—

CHAPTER LXXIV

1807-1808

Pitt's Coat

December 24.—Lawrence I dined with.—He told me Hughes was so much pleased with His portrait of Mr. Pitt that He brought the Bishop of Lincoln to see it, who squinting at it said it was very like, but it wanted a *Blue Coat* [Lawrence had made it red] the only dress, which Mr. Pitt had worn from the time He was Eleven years old, except in Court dress.—We considered this a trait of the narrow feelings of this mathematician in matters of art.—

Lawrence saw the premium pictures at the British Institution to-day.—He thought Pocock's,* which got the 100 guineas a very indifferent picture, a bad Westall.—

Lawrence dined at Kemble's on Sunday last. Sir Gilbert Heathcote† & His Brother, Mr. Robert Heathcote & His wife (late Miss Searle the Columbine) were there.—R. Heathcote is what is called a ruined man, but has £3000 a year still remaining.—He has been at Lisbon since His marriage & saw Bartolozzi there employed in engraving plates from the pictures of *Pellegrini* who resides near Him,—& this at 81 or 2 years of age.—

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* Isaac Pocock (1782-1835), born in Bristol, was the eldest son of Nicholas Pocock, marine painter, and brother of William Innes Pocock, also a marine painter. Isaac studied under Romney and Beechey, and Hayley in a sonnet referred to him as the "Ingenious son of an ingenious sire." He began to exhibit at the Royal Academy in 1800, and became a member of the Liverpool Academy in 1812.

On inheriting some property from his uncle, Sir Isaac Pocock, he devoted himself mainly to the drama. His first piece was a musical farce, *Yes or No*, which was produced at the Haymarket on August 31, 1808, and other works by him include *Hit or Miss* (1810), his most successful piece; the *Miller and his Men*, with music by Bishop; *For England Ho!* and he also dramatised several of Sir Walter Scott's novels. Harriet Mellon, Madame Vestris, Macready, Liston, Charles Kemble, Farren, and Wallack all appeared in his dramas.

† Sir Gilbert Heathcote, fourth baronet (1773-1854), M.P. for Lincolnshire, 1796-1806, and for Rutland, 1812-1841. He married, first, on August 16, 1793, Katherine Sophia, eldest daughter of John Manners, of Grantham Grange, Lincolnshire; second, on August 10, 1825, Mrs. Eldon, of Park Crescent, Marylebone. His eldest son (Gilbert John, fifth baronet), by the first marriage, who was created Lord Aveland, in 1856, married, in 1827, Clementina Elizabeth Drummond, Baroness Willoughby de Eresby, and their eldest son, Gilbert Henry, twenty-fourth Baron Willoughby de Eresby, was created Earl of Ancaster in 1892. The present Earl is the second of his line.

December 25.—Marchant sd. He never stood before Soane witht. thinking He had a deceitful man to look at.—As to Tresham, He said that from knowing Him in Rome, He had, on coming to England, expressed His opinion of Him to many of His friends. He sd. while Tresham was aiming to be an Academician He had lost 2 years in running abt. & soliciting members for their votes, & that when He had an object in view He never ceased His attempts till He obtained.—While Tresham was writing His Poem of "*The Sea-Sick Minstrel*" in which He endeavoured to compliment all the Academicians,*—He said, "I am praising many who never were praised before & never will be praised again."—So much for His sincerity.—

He Related a Joke

December 26.—Dr. Reynolds said He had often heard, but did not know it from experience, that a tub filled with water placed in a room newly painted, wd. in a short time draw out *the turpentine* & take off *the smell*, but it wd. have the effect of making the *paint* of a less pure colour than it wd. otherways.

He related a joke passed upon the *Royal Society* by Charles 2nd. soon after it was founded.—He desired they wd. account to Him "Why a vessel filled to the brim with water should, upon having two fishes put into it, instead of the water, running over the brim subside & become less in quantity?"—The Philosophers were puzzled at the question, when *Mr. Boyle*† came amongst them, and desired, that before they attempted to account for it, they wd. ascertain *the fact.*—They proceeded to do so, & having filled a vessel with water introduced two fishes into it, & the *water flowed over into their Shoes.*—

Great Collectors

December 27.—Baker called to invite me to meet Edridge at dinner on Sunday next, He proposed also to invite Marchi, which He wishes to do annually at least. He expects some Christmas fare from a Sister in the Country.—He told me that Mr. *Heber** laid out near £700 at Isaac Reid's† sale; and that Mr. Malone expended abt. £180.—For himself He had laid out too much, but thought it was property of such a kind as *Citizens do not much value*, yet it Had its value, & amused Him.—

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* Henry Tresham (1749?-1814), R.A., wrote five volumes of verse, including "The Sea-Sick Minstrel," none of which is mentioned by Lowndes. It was said of Tresham, by the authors of "The Royal Academy and its Members," that "He also wrote poetry, but we do not know that his poetry has lived more than his painting."

† The Hon. Robert Boyle (1627-1691), the eminent natural philosopher and chemist, fourteenth child of Richard Boyle, the "Great" Earl of Cork. The "Philosophical" or "Invisible College," as Boyle called it, was incorporated after the Restoration as the Royal Society. One of its most active founders, he was elected the Society's president on November 30, 1680, but "declined to act from a scruple about the oaths, and was replaced by Wren." Boyle was buried in St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Lord Melville's Nephew

December 29.—[Lestock] Wilson's I dined at. Philip Dundass, late Governor of Prince of Wales's Island died at Sea having left the Island with a hope of benefit from Sea air. His Uncle, Lord Melville, had caused Him to be appointed Master attendant at Bombay, where He had £10,000 a year & accumulated 70 or £80,000,—with which He returned to England, & married a daughr. of Sir John Wedderburn, by whom He had 2 Children.—He accepted the offer of Governor of Prince of Wales's Island, telling Wilson, that at His age, abt. 43 or 4 He was too young to become idle. Accordingly He went to that Island carrying with Him his wife & Her Sister. The Climate disagreed with them. Mrs. Dundass was sent down to Bengal attended by Mr. Dick, Surgeon, & they both died.—Philip Dundass disagreed with other Members of the Council of the Island.—Wilson concludes that anxiety & bad air, brought on bilious complaints & caused His death.

Captn. Grey, late of the Duke of Montrose, Indiaman, was through the interest of Dundass appointed a Member of the Council of the Island & went with him but they disagreed & Grey left the Island in the Blenheim Man of war & was lost in Her.—Wilson sd. Grey was a hot, foolish fellow, unfit for any trust or confidence, adding that a fool may be managed while He is a dependant, but give Him power and He will become intractable.—I remarked upon Dundass after having acquired a fortune far beyond his original hopes, exposing Himself to the hazards of such a situation. Wilson defended it saying, "That He was right to look to a larger fortune as in these times a man with a family could not go on witht. it." He said, He (Wilson) expends £3300 a year independent of what His House rent may be reckoned at.—

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* Richard Heber (1773-1833), "Heber the Magnificent, whose library and cellar," said Sir Walter Scott, "are so superior to all others in the world," was the eldest son of Reginald Heber (Lord of the Manor of Manton, in Yorkshire, and Hodnet, in Shropshire), and half-brother to Reginald Heber, Bishop of Calcutta, author of the hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains." Heber, who graduated B.A. in 1796 and took his M.A. in 1797 at Oxford, was one of the founders of the Athenæum Club, and sat in Parliament for Oxford University from 1821 to 1826. He was passionately fond of books from infancy. At the age of eight he compiled a catalogue of his collection, and two years later asked his father to buy books at a sale, where "there would be the best editions of the Classics." Heber went far afield in search of treasures to add to the collections he formed in London, Oxford, Paris, Ghent, Brussels, Antwerp, and other places abroad, and it is computed that the libraries which he possessed in England and on the Continent contained some 150,000 volumes, believed to have cost him about £100,000. When they were sold in the Thirties the collections realised about £57,500. The Rev. Mr. Dyce wrote of Heber: "Poor man, he expired at Pimlico, in the midst of his rare property, *without a friend to close his eyes*, and from all I have heard I am led to believe he died broken-hearted."

† Isaac Reed (1742-1807), well known as an editor of Shakespeare, was a conveyancer, and for upwards of forty years a collector of books relating mainly to English poetry and drama. The sale, conducted by King and Lochée, 38, King Street, Covent Garden, occupied the auctioneers for thirty-nine days, and the 8,957 lots brought £4,386 19s. 6d.

1808.

Pictures by Richard Wilson

January 1.—Hearne entertained us with an account of His dining at Lord Essex's at Cashiobury, where the Servants brought Him *Ale* for *Beer*, & from a side table a piece of *Knuckle* of Venison instead of a prime part.—

January 3.—Mr. Booth of the Adelphi, who had 47 pictures sd. to be by Wilson, for a considerable time before His death, was accustomed to come to His rooms in the Adelphi once a week to dinner, & on those days His Son who died in Sept. last was accustomed to dine with him; the other days in the week it has now been shown He [resided] near London with a French woman who many years ago He brought from France. He has left Her a small income.—Mr. Booth, the Son, lodged at a House in Marybone where He found something agreeable to His disposition of mind, which was timid, in the daughter of the people who owned the House, & He resolved to marry Her, but His death prevented it, & He did not leave a Will. His Sisters, Heirs to His estate, Lady Ford & Misses Booth, have settled £4,000, 3 pr. cents upon Her for her life viz: an annuity of £120.—Lady Ford has got all the pictures *by Wilson* & says she will not sell any of them, nor will she suffer Her House to be dirtied by permitting people to see them.—

Great Style in Painting

Colnaghi, the Printseller, is lately returned from the Continent, & told Mr. Baker that the Painters in Paris are now all mad for the *great stile in Painting*.—Nothing will do but what is upon the Model of Michael Angelo.—Raphael &c.—No prints sought for but those of Marc-antonio &c.—Colnaghi came to England by way of Holland & with great difficulty He got on board a vessel disguised in a Sailor's dress, & while a search was going forward hid himself among the Coals of the Ship, & was so blackened that He was not afterwards recognised by those who knew him.—

CHAPTER LXXV

1808

An Artist's Income

January 4.—Collins Junr. [who became a Royal Academician] called to desire me to call on Him to see His pictures painted for the British Institution.—Wm. Daniell [R.A.] called. He sd. that from the time He married He has never got less than Twelve hundred pounds a year,—& sometimes £1400.—That His expenses have been between 7 & £800 a yr.—that he has a Bond for upwards of £500 from Westall, who is also indebted to Him for upwards of £200 for the outfit of William Westall when He went His first voyage.—That He has saved, were all due to Him to be paid, towards £2000.—He shewed me Cadel & Davis's acct. for the work of animals, & they make the total expenses of the publication to amount to £1800.—& calculating upon the sale of all the impressions the clear profit to Wm. Daniell for His trouble in engraving the plates wd. amount to abt. £650. He said, He was employed upon it between 5 & 6 months.—Wood, for collecting & arranging the letter press will have the same proportion of profit. Davis & Cadel also, besides all that they will gain upon the paper, printing, & selling at *retail prices* what they allow to the work at Wholesale prices only,—so that probably they may get near 50 per cent upon the undertaking.—

Passing Rich

Mrs. Edwards called & brought me more papers belonging to Her Deceased Brother.*—She said she now found she could live with comfort upon Forty pounds a year.—Her calculation [is] as follows,—

Lodging, per annum	£ 6	6	0
Weekly Expence of eating, drinking, fire candle &c. &c. Eleven shillings	28	12	0
	34	18	0
Cloaths &c. &c.	5	2	0
	£40	0	0

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* E. Edwardes, A.R.A. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

I then reckoned to obtain for her from the Royal Academy—

per annum	£25	0	0
She has £200 in Exchequer bills	10	0	0
also £40, 3 pr. cts.	2	0	0
	£37	0	0

And by sinking £100 for an annuity for Her life she would obtain £5. more interest making Her income £42. 0. 0, annually.—

January 6.—Dance I dined with. Dance sd. He thought the House at Cole-Orton which Sir G. Beaumont is finishing will cost Him with furniture, not less than £15,000. Sir George will not pay the least attention to the *furnishing* the House but leaves all to Lady Beaumont, who has shown a very bad taste in Her selection—While Dance was at Cole-Orton in October last, they generally rose between 7 & 8 oClock and breakfasted before 9,—and dined rather before four oClock.—In the mornings Sir George painted or rode out with *His Sketch book*, & in the evenings He put on His Spectacles and again went on with His Sketching. I asked Dance what He thought of sketches of that kind,—He said They were very well to amuse an amateur,—and exhibited considerable dexterity in practice, but it was that sort of thing that Ten thousand persons might do if disposed to adopt the practise; that it was something like what is called *striking* in *penmanship*, a matter of *execution* more than of the *mind*.—That in such sketches there is no attention to *nature* or to the peculiar character of the object, but all is made subservient to a particular practice.—He then dwelt upon the excellencies of *Claude* where the appearances of nature are so deeply studied & so faithfully given.—

The Lovers of Angelica Kauffman

Dance went to Italy by Sea,—He sailed from Gravesend in December 1758, & did not arrive at Rome till the end of May following,—having had a tedious passage, & stopping at Florence where His Brother N. Dance, met Him.—N. Dance (now Sir N. Holland) went to Italy in 1755, having before that period been abt. 2 years with *Hayman** as a pupil, where He became acquainted with Gainsborough.†—At Rome He became acquainted with *Angelica Kauffman*, and became so enamoured of Her, she encouraging His passion, that when He came to England, whither she also came, it was settled between them that they shd. marry.—But in England she became acquainted with Sir Joshua Reynolds, who showed Her much attention, & it is supposed she looked to Him, expecting that He wd. offer Himself to Her. Her reception of Dance having now become more cold, & Her intercourse with Sir Joshua being noticed by Him, He remonstrated with Her in such a manner that she complained of His temper & assigned that as a reason for now refusing to marry Him.—His passion for Her was extreme & He engaged *His Father* to write to Her, but all wd. not do, Her resolution remained unaltered.—Dance sd. she never was beautiful, but there was something amiable & feminine in Her appearance that engaged people to Her.—

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* Francis Hayman, R.A.

† See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

Buonaparte in Germany

January 7.—General Moore* called upon Lawrence today.—He left Sicily with a considerable force to act in conjunction with Sir Sidney Smith against Portugal, if necessary, but the last resolution of the Prince of Brazil to go to Brazil, & *to carry off the shipping*, rendered it unnecessary.—Lord Pembroke who has lately returned from His embassy *to Vienna*, reports that the popularity of Buonaparte in Germany amounts to enthusiasm.—

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* General Sir John Moore. See Index, Vols. I., II. and III.

END OF VOL. IV.

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ERRATA

P. 140. Footnote. Delete "afterwards first Earl of Harewood."

P. 158. Footnote should read "See Index, Vols. I. and III."

P. 173. Footnote. For Dean of Westminster, read Dean of Winchester.

P. 220. Fourth Footnote. Full stop after Frederick the Great, then read "John Adolphus was, author, etc."

P. 237. Last footnote. For Vigée's, read "Vigée Lebrun's."

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